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Arab-Israeli Talks

Rubinstein, Lubrani Arrive in Washington for Talks

TA1406155393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Elyaqim Rubinstein and Uri Lubrani, the heads of the delegations for the peace talks with Jordan, the Palestinians, and Lebanon, arrived in Washington a short time ago for consultations with State Department officials on the eve of the 10th round of talks slated to start tomorrow.

Elyaqim Rubinstein told our correspondent in Washington Arye Golan that Israel went a long way in the negotiations with the Palestinians, and now the ball is in their court.

Uri Lubrani said he knows nothing about an American document including proposals to bridge the gaps between the Israeli and Lebanese positions. He noted, at the same time, that there are various ideas—some of them coming from the United States—which will be examined in the upcoming round of talks.

Official Says 'Abd-al-Shafi To Head Delegation

TA1406180593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Palestinian delegates say they are unhappy with their talks with State Department officials and want more direct American intervention to break the deadlock in the talks. Reporter Mark Weiss spoke with Latif (Rayan), a consultant to the Palestinian delegation in Washington, and asked him if the Palestinians believed a joint declaration of principles can be agreed to during the forthcoming round of talks:

[Begin recording] [(Rayan)] If the Israelis are forthcoming, there's no way but to return to the principle of a declaration of principles. The Palestinians came in the past round, the ninth round, ready to sign the declaration of principles. Unfortunately that did not happen, and we don't see why not. As long as we, the Palestinians, are fully committed to the declaration of principles, and to the mediation letters, and to the land for peace, and 242 and 338. We don't know why the other party is not really fully committed to these principles.

[Weiss] Do you have any information as to whether Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi will be attending the round of talks?

[(Rayan)] Well, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi is in town, and he is heading the Palestinian delegation. He headed the delegation during the preconsultation with the State Department, and today he is in town. I don't see why not he will be here. [as heard]

[Weiss] You think he will be taking part in the talks?

[(Rayan)] Of course he will. [end recording]

Talks With Syria To Focus on Security Arrangements

TA1506050993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Excerpt] The 10th round of the peace talks gets under way in the U.S. capital today. Qol Yisra'el's diplomatic correspondent says security arrangements will be raised in the talks with the Syrians in order to overcome the current impasse. This is to include demilitarization and force limitations based on reciprocity and equality. The proposal would also deal with the stationing of UN forces on the Golan Heights.

[A similar report by political correspondent Shlomo Raz on Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0405 GMT on 15 June adds that the proposal to discuss security arrangements is being raised by the United States. Regarding the proposal to station UN forces on the Golan, Raz points to "a recent Egyptian initiative to reduce the size of the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] stationed in the Sinai. Egypt is attributing this move to finances. Israel, Egypt, and the United States each finance one-third of the expenses. The proposal refers to moving some of the MFO troops from the Sinai to the Golan."]

Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's chief delegate for Syrian talks, says the main reason for the lack of progress is Syria's demand for a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan as a prior condition for moving ahead. Rabinovich says that Israel will not give any such commitment.

As for the Palestinians, Rabinovich believes that a joint statement of principles can be formulated if the Palestinians show goodwill. Israeli sources say there are a number of obstacles still in the way to a joint declaration of principles with the Palestinians. These are said to include East Jerusalem, the jurisdiction of Palestinian autonomy, the linkage between the interim and final agreements, as well as the implementation of UN Resolution 242. [passage omitted]

Syrian Radio on Washington Meetings, Rabin Remarks

JN1506065193 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Washington—On the eve of the 10th round, Arab delegations to the peace talks held their first coordination meeting yesterday at the residence of the Palestinian delegation.

The delegates reviewed the previous consultations held by the Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian, and Lebanese delegations with the U.S. sponsor. The delegates also discussed ways to reach positive results during the 10th round, scheduled to kick off at 1000 Washington time, 1700 Damascus time, in light of the decisions adopted by Arab foreign ministers concerned with the peace process during a meeting held recently in Amman.

The Palestinian delegation held three meetings recently with the U.S. sponsor in a bid to overcome obstacles which emerged at the conclusion of the previous round.

The Syrian delegation, led by Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, also held a meeting yesterday with a U.S. working team observing the progress of the peace talks. During the meeting, the team reaffirmed the U.S. sponsor's resolve to exert more efforts during the current round to ensure progress. The U.S. side also stressed its concern to intensify contacts with the Syrian and other Arab delegations to ensure this aim will be achieved.

For his part, Muwaffaq al-'Allaf affirmed during the meeting the Syrian Arab delegation's commitment to the peace process, hoping the 10th round will lead to different results from previous rounds. He noted that the Israeli position, marked by lack of commitment to the bases of the peace process and the resolutions on which this process was launched, precluded any progress.

Yesterday afternoon, Muwaffaq al-'Allaf also received the representative of the Russian sponsor to the peace talks. They exchanged views on ways to advance the peace process, especially in light of the Russian sponsor's assertion that it will double its efforts during this round for this purpose.

On the eve of the 10th round of peace talks, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reiterated rejection of total withdrawal from the Golan.

Addressing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday, Rabin said he refuses to return all of the Golan to Syria, even if Syria declares its willingness to reach full peace with Israel.

Answering a question by Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, Rabin said: We have made it clear to Syria that it will not have all of the Golan in exchange for peace.

The head of the Israeli Government added: The talks with Syria will be based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. However, we will not return all of the occupied territories to Syria, but only some territory.

Regarding talks with the Palestinians, Rabin reaffirmed that what is being proposed to the Palestinians is autonomy. Security affairs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to the security of settlements and settlers, will remain the responsibility of Israeli authorities, he said.

Syria's Delegation Head Discusses Working Paper

NC1506070593 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Statement by Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, to Voice of Lebanon correspondent in New York Nuhad al-Hayik; date not given—recorded]

[Text] The Syrian document contains the essential principles and bases for establishing a comprehensive and just peace. For this document to be issued as a joint document, the Israeli side must adhere to these essential principles. This is the only way to issue any joint declaration between the two sides. We do not issue joint documents and statements just for the sake of issuing them. We issue them if the two sides agree on the principles approved by international legitimacy and the peace process.

The Israeli side has not adhered to these bases, although the Syrian document is a working paper on the Syrian-Israeli track. We hope that during the current round, the Israeli side will be more positive. If it adheres to full withdrawal and to the bases and resolutions of the peace process, a joint declaration of principles can then be made.

We do not believe this is the proper time to change the system [nizam] of rounds of the peace talks, especially in view of the lack of any real progress. We have come to the 10th round, to which we were invited. We believe this system must continue so that the parties can evaluate the progress or lack of it at the end of each round. Otherwise, the peace process will boil down to endless meetings that are not evaluated and to which no one pays attention. We believe it is in the interest of the peace process that these rounds continue successively, but, we hope, not forever. Some 20 months after the start of the peace process in Madrid, we should have reached a result.

Rabinovich on Syrian Talks, U.S. Involvement

TA1506065293 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Professor Itamar Rabinovich, Israeli ambassador to the United States and chief delegate to the talks with Syria, in Washington by Mikha Friedman and Ge'ula Even—recorded "an hour ago"]

[Text] [Friedman] Mr. Rabinovich, this morning it was reported that the United States has proposed that Syria and Israel begin to discuss future security arrangements on the Golan Heights, which will be implemented following the withdrawal.

[Rabinovich] We should wait for the beginning of the talks tomorrow and to hear from the Syrian representatives that they are willing to discuss security arrangements in a more thorough manner than so far. This issue has been discussed on several occasions in the past, but in a general tone that did not deal with details and that certainly did not satisfy us. If, indeed, we find tomorrow that the Syrians are willing to discuss this matter in a new manner, we will certainly gladly do so.

[Friedman] According to the report, the proposal speaks of an extensive and reciprocal demilitarization on both sides of the border: They will pull out troops from the Golan; we will pull out forces from the Galilee. Up to now, Israel has rejected this offer. How, then, can we make progress on this issue?

[Rabinovich] That is precisely my question. In the previous stages, the Syrians insisted on a principle of symmetry in every arrangement of the kind you mentioned,

which we naturally do not accept to begin with. Furthermore, the discussion was too general and failed to address the details that were to provide us with a clearer picture of the security arrangements in question. If there is room for the optimism you and other reports have mentioned, it should become visible tomorrow in the shape of a Syrian willingness to hold the discussion.

[Even] If the report is true, it means that the Syrians will be making a very significant compromise, in the wake of which we may have to show some flexibility in our stands, does it not?

[Rabinovich] Not necessarily, because willingness to discuss an issue does not indicate a concession or flexibility. It means that an issue has been opened for discussion. What takes place in the discussion itself is a different matter. Hence, an agreement to hold a thorough discussion on security arrangements is not a concession. Dropping the precondition expressed in the magic words full withdrawal as a condition for holding such a discussion will certainly mean a reopening of the road to fruitful negotiations with the Syrians.

[Friedman] What is the meaning of the personal involvement on the part of Christopher and Clinton, which the Americans are currently declaring? Doesn't it mean that the United States has abandoned the role of an honest broker and has become a participating party?

[Rabinovich] Absolutely not. I believe that when the secretary of state announced that his and the President's personal involvement will continue, he addressed himself to concerns that the U.S. focus on domestic issues might affect its role as an instrument assisting the process or, perhaps, that it has some new international priorities—Bosnia, Russia, Somalia—that might come at the expense of its interest in the Middle East. Therefore, the secretary of state's remark was made to allay fears expressed by Israel and its friends regarding a decline in the level of interest in the peace process among the higher echelons in the U.S. Administration.

[Friedman] Some Israeli circles expressed the opposite concern: that the United States might become too involved in the process and that we might eventually find ourselves in a position where we must address U.S. decisions, the rejection of which could upset our great friend.

[Rabinovich] Yes, there is a variety of opinions in Israel. Some want more involvement; others want less. I believe that the important thing is that during the past 20 years in which the United States has been managing the processes toward arrangements and peace accords in our region, no agreement has been made with the Arab parties without massive U.S. involvement. If we want this process to achieve anything, we should desire massive U.S. involvement. Furthermore, for those who fear such involvement, I can say that in all the months I have been dealing with the negotiations, I have not encountered what is termed U.S. pressure on Israel. I do not believe we should fear such pressure at this stage.

[Even] All the parties have lowered their expectations of the round of talks that opens today. Sources in Israel have also expressed doubt about a breakthrough. What is your position? Is there a chance of a breakthrough? Can we slightly raise our expectations?

[Rabinovich] No. I do not believe we should open this round of talks with high expectations.

[Friedman] You would like to end them this way.

[Rabinovich] I would like to end the talks with high results, not high expectations. Speaking of Syria, it is interesting to note a series of positive and optimistic remarks that came from Syria on the eve of the current round of talks. The Syrians may not give us a lot in terms of substance, but they certainly intend to give us a lot in terms of climate.

[Friedman] Let us hope that some business is done in Washington, not just talk. Professor Itamar Rabinovich, our ambassador to the United States and head of the delegation to the talks with Syria, thank you and good luck.

[Rabinovich] Thank you and shalom.

Palestinian Affairs

Reports on Meeting With Israelis in Europe Denied

JN1506065093 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu-Mazin, has denied that Palestinian and Israeli officials recently met in Europe. The Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, cited Abu-Mazin as saying that reports about such meetings were groundless. WAFA also said that 'Abbas and Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Palestinian delegation to the negotiations, have not recently visited Oslo or Vienna as reported by some Israeli sources.

'Abbas and al-Husayni visited the United Arab Emirates and Qatar last week to discuss PLO relations with these two countries. After taking part in a PLO meeting, Faysal al-Husayni left Tunis for Washington yesterday to attend the 10th round of talks that opens today. No official statement was issued after the PLO meeting that began on 13 June chaired by Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

Factions Urge Boycott of 10th Round of Peace Talks

Letter Sent to Butrus-Ghali, Delegation

NC1506102193 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Ten Palestinian factions and popular committees in the Palestinian camps have handed the UN Interim Force in Lebanon office in Tyre a cable addressed to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali and the Palestinian negotiating delegation. The cable urges the Palestinian delegation to boycott the peace talks with Israel. It also

calls for providing international protection for the Palestinian people and implementing UN resolutions, especially Security Council Resolution 779 [as heard] calling for the repatriation of the Palestinian deportees to their homes, and the Fourth Geneva Convention.

[In a related report, Clandestine Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic at 0845 GMT on 15 June adds the following: "A Palestinian delegation representing 10 Palestinian factions staged a symbolic sit-in outside the International Committee of the Red Cross headquarters in Sidon to protest the Palestinian delegation's participation in the 10th round of peace talks."]

'Text' of Factions' Statement

JN1406190793 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1650 GMT 14 Jun 93

["Text" of an "important political statement" issued by the 10 Palestinian factions opposed to Arab-Israeli peace talks; date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A political statement issued by the 10 Palestinian factions.

The leaders of the 10 Palestinian factions have met and examined the recent political developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas, particularly with respect to what is taking place in the bilateral and multilateral peace talks between the Arab and Palestinian negotiators on the one hand and the Zionist enemy on the other. The leaders also dwelt on some official and popular Arab moves made to normalize ties with the Zionist entity and the dangers these moves pose. They also addressed the impact of the Zionist siege imposed on our kinfolk in the occupied territories, particularly with respect to the isolation of Jerusalem from the remaining occupied territories to consecrate its annexation as a fait accompli.

While lauding the steadfastness of the heroic intifadah and that of the valiant masses of our people in the occupied territories and the diaspora, and while highly valuing the steadfastness of the deportees stranded in Marj al-Zuhur, as demonstrated by their insistence on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 799, which provides for their repatriation and their reunion with their families, the 10 factions would like to underscore the following points:

1. The leadership holding sway within the PLO has sunk into the quagmire of the bilateral and multilateral negotiations. It is offering one concession after another at the expense of our people's inalienable national rights. It is using Arab participation in these negotiations as a cover for its destructive and renunciatory course, giving in to all U.S.-Zionist terms. By doing so, it is placing the destiny of the Palestine question in the hands of the brokers of U.S.-Zionist solutions, which are aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause. And here is the negotiating team preparing for the 10th round of talks by holding talks with the U.S. Administration on the statement of principles the United States submitted toward the end of the ninth round to expedite the efforts to carry out the administrative self-rule conspiracy.

2. The leadership holding sway within the PLO, by its pursuit of a renunciatory policy, has failed to act in line with the popular Palestinian consensus in the occupied territories and the diaspora—the course that is opposed to the Madrid-Washington course. Indeed, this leadership has run the limit by remaining engaged in the negotiations at a time when the siege imposed on our people in the occupied territories is maintained, at a time when the Zionist annexation of Jerusalem, whose municipal borders have been recently expanded by a decision of the enemy's interior minister, is being consecrated, and also at a time when the ordeal of the Palestinian deportees stranded in Marj al-Zuhur remains unresolved.

3. The 10th round of talks carries within it serious and grave dangers. It is meant to achieve a breakthrough on the Palestinian track—something that could elicit other breakthroughs on other Arab tracks. Within this context lies some official and popular Arab moves made to effect a direct normalization of ties with the Zionist entity, such as the visit made to the occupied territories by some Libyans, the Kuwaiti Government's decision to revoke the boycott of the Zionist enemy, and the continued performance by Morocco of a role in this regard. All these moves constitute serious incentives and precedents.

4. While reiterating their rejection of the negotiating course currently pursued in Washington, the 10 Palestinian factions urge the leadership holding sway within the PLO, as well as its negotiating team, to immediately withdraw from the bilateral and multilateral talks, and to boycott the 10th round of talks, particularly since this is the way to start a comprehensive national dialogue based on national constants, to restore the PLO's militant line, and to allow for reformulating the Palestinian national stand on bases that do not conflict with our people's aspirations for liberation, repatriation, and independence. They urge our Arab and Islamic nation's masses to realize the dangers of what is taking place, and to extend every possible form of support and assistance to the valiant Palestinian intifadah. They also urge the masses of our heroic Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the diaspora to confront this devastating course with all possible means and ask them to carry out the following activities:

The date that 10th round of negotiations convenes, 15 June, must be observed as a day of general national strike in the occupied territories and the diaspora to express rejection of the Madrid- Washington course.

The day of 17 June must be observed as a day of strikes and national activities in the occupied territories to mark the passage of six months since the expulsion of Palestinian strugglers to Marj al-Zuhur.

The day of 27 June, the anniversary of the annexation of Jerusalem, must be observed as a day of sweeping national wrath to help lift the isolation imposed on dear Jerusalem.

Long live the valiant intifadah. Glory and immortality to martyrs.

[Signed] The 10 Palestinian factions

Al-Husayni Discusses Prospects for 10th Round

JN1206190393 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Studio interview with Faysal al-Husayni, "head of the Palestinian team to the peace process" by Murid Hammad, carried within the "Perspectives" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Hammad] Good evening, I am Murid Hammad, and this is "Perspectives". The 10th round of Middle East peace talks will resume, or will begin, in Washington in a few days time, specifically on Tuesday [15 June]. All the Arab delegations have been preparing for the upcoming round, hoping for a breakthrough in the peace talks and hoping that the road to peace will be made much easier. Tonight, we will talk about the next round of the Middle East talks, as well as a discussion of the previous rounds and the future of Middle East peace talks with the head of the Palestinian team for the peace process, Mr. Faysal al-Husayni.

Mr. al-Husayni, thank you very much for joining us here at "Perspectives." Let us begin by the situation as of this very moment regarding the peace talks?

[Al-Husayni] Thank you very much. You know that the talks, starting from the ninth round, started after a very big crisis, starting with the Israeli decision to deport 400 Palestinians to Marj al-Zuhur. And what we are going to do now is to try to overcome all of these obstacles that have been put by the Israelis, and also to try to find and to help the American role in these negotiations to be a role which can push the peace process forward, starting from the respect of the term of reference of this talks. We believe in the 10th round, if the Israelis, from one side, and the Americans, from the other side, will respect the terms of reference of the peace process, we can came with a positive results, even in this round.

[Hammad] In previous rounds, the Palestinians and other Arab delegations have asked the Americans to intervene and to play a major role in the peace talks. This, as you've just said, happened in the ninth round. How do you describe the American intervention? Is it quantitatively and qualitatively satisfactory as far as the Arab sides are concerned?

[Al-Husayni] OK, we fought for this role to start through the eight rounds. In the ninth round, the Americans start to play this role as a full partners, but the way that they started their role it was not what can satisfy us, or what can be called the right way of playing this role....

[Hammad, interrupting] You are talking about the declaration of principles?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, we are talking about the declarations of principles, and then about the statement that the Americans, joint statement that the Americans came with. Actually, in the ninth round, it was another fight to find, or to correct, the role of the Americans in this talks. And I believe now it is clear for the Americans that if they would like to play a full partner, they must change their attitude. And we hope that in the 10th round such a thing will happen, and the Americans will play this role. We told the Americans before: We are happy that you have decided to be a full partner, but you must understand that we, the Palestinians, are also full partners. Then you do not have the right to go and reach to deals with Israel and then come to us with a certain paper.

[Hammad] Is this going to change, do you think, in the 10th round? Do you think the Americans will have a better understanding of the situation and, maybe, better ideas, more acceptable to both sides of the conflict?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, this is our feeling, and during the 10th round we will see.

[Hammad] Yes, let me move over to the events of the ninth round. As in the events of the eight other rounds that preceded it, the Palestinians have insisted heavily on the principle of respect of human rights in the occupied territories. You seem to attach a special value to human rights, and maybe you have a different meaning than other instances where human rights issues were involved. How much hope do you attach to improving human rights in the occupied territories, and what is the message that do you really want to deliver to both the Americans, the Israelis, and the world community regarding human rights in the occupied territories.

[Al-Husayni] OK, first I would like to make something clear, that we don't look to human rights as part of the negotiations. We refuse to relate it to the negotiations, because it is human rights. It must be respected if there is negotiations or if there is no negotiations. So if anyone from the Israeli side will dream that by using the human rights, they will be able to make pressure on us to come [to] some changes in our political position at the negotiating table, that will not happen. The second matter—what we are telling the Israelis is that when we are talking about human rights, we are not talking about it in the same way that other people under the occupation were talking about it, because, as an example, when the United Kingdom left Aden, they left it to a very far place overseas. The same thing for France with Algeria. But here, if the Israelis will withdraw from the occupied territories, they will still be our neighbors, and we want that within a comprehensive peace. There will be relations in the future between us and them. So for this future and even for their benefit, they must change their attitude, and they must respect the human rights now, for the future.

[Hammad] So that this will not help the Middle East peace talks in general.

[Al-Husayni] In general, it will help the future, but the talks itself—what we are saying is that we will not allow Israel to

use human rights to make any kind of pressure on us. And because of that, we insist that even if we will have any working group about human rights, it will not [be] part of the negotiating system.

[Hammad] Many people feel that the issue of human rights is being used against the Palestinians themselves. The more repression, the more violence there is in the occupied territories, the more young Palestinians, boys and girls, are being shot and killed, the more pressure that you will be facing from the opposition who stand against the Middle East peace talks. Is this a valid theory, you see? Is this an Israeli concept, for example?

[Al-Husayni] They will try to use all the elements under their hands to make pressure on us by coming in with certain attitudes in the occupied territories, confiscating land, building new settlements, killing people, destroying houses, demolishing houses, all of these things they are making it to make pressure on the Palestinian negotiator, to tell him that we will pressure the Palestinians so they will make pressure on you, so you will give some concessions. No, our people, I believe, can understand our position. They will not let the Israelis use this pressure on us. At the same time, it is a fight, and this fight is a political one at the negotiating table. And it is a field fight on the ground. And if the Israelis would like to use pressure on us on the ground, our reaction it will be on the ground. And if they will use some pressure at the table, our reaction will be at the table. Sometimes, yes, we will do something at the table to help our position on the ground, or something will be created on the ground to help our position at the negotiating table. But in the end, it is two lines who are working together.

[Hammad] All the Arab delegations to the Middle East peace talks have said that they will not sign a separate individual peace treaty with Israel until the Palestinians themselves agree with the Israelis, until all the Palestinian demands are met and the Palestinians are satisfied. Do you think this is a source of strength for the Palestinian delegation as they face the Israeli delegation on the peace talks at the table?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, I believe this the main matter that all of us working toward is to solve the Palestinian problem. The Arabs, they went to war with Israel because of the Palestinian problem, and in this case there will be no peace without solving the Palestinian problem. This is the strength of the Palestinians. Maybe we are weak enough that we are not able to enforce any solution, but we have enough power to paralyze any solution which will not respect our rights. It is a negative power. To be fruitful, we are using it in a positive way. We are telling the Israelis, the whole world, the Americans: We are interested in making peace; we are interested in reaching stability in the Middle East; we are ready to create a new world in the Middle East and help this world, but there is some demands that we are in need for it to be respected and to be achieved. Without achieving these demands there will be no peace, there will be no stability. We can't help that.

[Hammad] What are the Palestinian demands as it stands now?

[Al-Husayni] We are for the implementation of 242—meaning that the Israelis will withdraw from the lands that have been occupied in 1967 and to allow the Palestinian people to build their own state, a Palestinian state for all the Palestinians. And in this case, we can create a Palestinian state. From our perspective, we believe that it will be the key of the gate toward a regional cooperation in the Middle East.

[Hammad] How much acceptance is this facing through, or disapproval are these demands facing, are being met by the Israelis?

[Al-Husayni] I believe saying there is some Israelis who are afraid from a comprehensive peace or from a solution. They are worry about the future. What can we tell them yet? What we are offering the Israelis in the future—either to be an unimportant part of Europe or to be an important part of the Middle East? If they would like to be an important part of the Middle East, they must change their attitude, they must change some of their laws. Also in the Arab world, we must change some of our laws. But in the end, if they would like to be part of the Middle East, they must respect the Palestinian demands. They must respect the terms of reference, and they must change some of their laws. And in this case, we hope that a new world can be created in the Middle East, and everyone and every people can live in peace.

[Hammad] Let me talk about the position of the Israeli Government, at this very moment. The Rabin government has always been described ever since it took part that it is the other side of the coin that bore the face of Shamir on the other side. Have you found this a valid statement, or have you found tangible improvement or understanding of the Palestinian problem, or of the need to solve the Palestinian problem and find the Middle East settlement based on justice?

[Al-Husayni] Years ago, even before Mr. Rabin became the prime minister of Israel, I was saying always that Rabin can be de Gaulle of Israel if he has enough courage to go ahead and make peace with the Palestinians and give the Palestinian people the opportunity to build their own state. Unfortunately, until now—most of the time until this round—we were hearing Mr. Rabin talking, but at the negotiating table it was still Mr. Shamir. We hope that this matter will be ended in the 10th round and we will start negotiating Mr. Rabin, and with the government of Mr. Rabin—this government which is completely different from the government of Mr. Shamir and from the principles of Mr. Shamir. If Mr. Rabin will go ahead and start a new phase in these negotiations, I believe that there will be [words indistinct] I am sorry, until now, we are smelling Mr. Shamir at the negotiating table more than Mr. Rabin.

[Hammad] Is that reflected by the people at the table or by the policies that are...?

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] I am afraid it is the policy of the government, not of the people at the negotiating table. I hope the opposite but...?

[Hammad, interrupting] Would American intervention now make things more different for the Israeli Government, or do you think that there has to be some kind of grassroots movement in Israel, from within the Israeli society, that will help push towards peace?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, I believe movements—like Peace Now, and some movements like Ratz, which is part of the government, some people from the Labor Party itself—they must be more clear and more courageous in putting their ideas, and in pushing the government of Mr. Rabin to start dealing with the peace process differently from Mr. Shamir. If they will do such a thing, I believe that a lot of things can be done. At the same time, we believe also that a position from the United States which is respectable toward the terms of reference can help such move.

[Hammad] Yes. What about the events that led to the end of the ninth round? Have you reached some kind of an agreement with the Israelis on any particular topic, or are you still scratching the surface?

[Al-Husayni] OK, what can I say except that the Israelis came with different language in this negotiating round, the ninth round, and because of that we created the groups of, the working groups, which make a sort of progress—progress in understanding each other. But it was not translated enough or well in the papers when the Israelis delivered to us the declaration of principles. Now the Americans interfere, but also the American papers.... I believe that it was time to solve and to deal with an Israeli internal problems more than to deal with the peace process.

[Hammad] What do you want from the next phase, the five years, the Interim Self-Government Arrangement? What are the main points that are a point of contention between you and the Israelis?

[Al-Husayni] OK, we are talking about interim period, and then, in the third year we will start talking about the final status. We insist that the interim period must be part of the whole process, without neglecting any part of the occupied territories, without neglecting any principles—including East Jerusalem—to leave the options open for the final status. From the Israeli side, they are insist from now to force, to enforce some positions which can keep some options outside of the negotiating table and outside of the future. Here is the most important matter that we are discussing.

[Hammad] What about elections and the future of Jerusalem? Is this also a point of contention with the Israelis?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, for sure. But now the Israelis are saying that Palestinians from East Jerusalem can elect but they cannot be elected. They can't have candidates. What we are saying: No, the Palestinians from East Jerusalem, they must have the right to elect and to be elected. And we can reach for that. We remember that the Israelis in the beginning said that they will not allow Palestinians from East Jerusalem to sit at the negotiating table. Now we are at the negotiating table....

[Hammad, interrupting] You are there at the table?

[Al-Husayni] Yes. And we believe that also when we reach to the moment of the elections, people from East Jerusalem, Palestinians from East Jerusalem, they will elect and be elected.

[Hammad] Is there a common idea of the shape of the elected council? Is it legislative, is it a council....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] Yes, it must be. Yes, it is a legislative council that can create laws. For sure there is some laws which concern a state. It will not be allowed in this, in a certain moment of negotiations. But, not every law, and it is not the right of Israel to decide which law it can be accepted or not. It is only the agreement, and then we can go to other bodies or other states to judge between us and the Israelis.

[Hammad] Yes, and what about the shape of the transition period, what is termed as ISGA, or the Interim Self-Government Arrangement? Is it clear for you now, or you still have to....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] No, from our side it is clear. It is just as it was described by the Israelis from the beginning, that we will have everything out of the external security and what they are calling foreign affairs. By the way, the only thing that we are implementing now is the foreign affairs. Anyhow, we believe that everything must be under our control, out of this matter of external security and membership in the United Nations. Maybe in the beginning it will not be the case, but in the end we must have this option to be a full state....

[Hammad, interrupting] Is this....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] The Israelis are trying....

[Hammad, interrupting] Sorry to interrupt you, but is this idea, as you describe it, is this shared also by the Americans or do you think the Americans are....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] Yes. You know, the Americans told us frankly that they are not going to support a Palestinian, an independent Palestinian state, but they are taking in consideration the idea of federation. It means, federation, it means a unification between two states. So, it means that the Americans are not for an independent, separate state, but within certain confederation, they will change their position.

[Hammad] What about the Israelis?

[Al-Husayni] The Israelis until now are talking also sometimes about confederation. So I believe that with more working, that with more fight for our principles in the negotiations and on the ground, also the Israelis will accept

that there must be a Palestinian state in this area because without this Palestinian state, there will be no stability in the Middle East.

[Hammad] And there'll be no confederation. I mean in the terms of, political terms as I understand it, a confederation is between two independent states....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] Yes....

[Hammad, interrupting] So that will....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] Yes. I mean that their position is not clear because sometimes they are talking about confederation, but sometimes they are not talking about confederation. But, if they are talking about confederation, it means from the principal point of view, they are accepting the idea of a Palestinian state.

[Hammad] You are going to the next round on Tuesday.

[Al-Husayni] Yes, I am going there next, I am leaving in Sunday.

[Hammad] On Sunday. There is a delegation that went ahead to Washington before you. They will hold talks with the Americans in Washington?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, yes. The purpose is to hold talks with the Americans, mainly about the Palestinian declaration of principles, and in the same time, we will continue our criticism into the American paper just to make it clear for them why refused it. But, to discuss, we will discuss our paper.

[Hammad] And what about the next round, or at least the next few months of the peace talks. There has been a lot of talk that an agreement is possible before the end of the year. Is this, do you see this, in sight?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, I believe that it is simply, simply if the Americans and the Israelis will respect the terms of reference, we can reach to such an agreement before the end of this year.

[Hammad] Once you have a common declaration of principles, is...

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] Yes, if we will have a common declaration which can respect the terms of reference of the peace process, I believe things can move quickly, even....

[Hammad, interrupting] And then you can start implementing the interim self-government.

[Al-Husayni] And we will start implementing the interim self-government. We have the ability, and the whole world is ready to help us in doing that.

[Hammad] In light of the recent foreign ministers meeting here in Amman, have you had any change in the picture that you saw in the previous 20 months?

[Al-Husayni] No, I believe that it is clear now for every one that the main problem here is the Palestinian issue. And, if the Israelis or any one else believe that solving the problem in another track without solving the problem of the Palestinian track will help the peace process, no, it will not help.

[Hammad] It will not. What about the Palestinian arena itself. There is a lot of debate, a lot of differences, a lot of sometimes tough opposition from other Palestinian factions and parties? Is this something that you are concerned about, you are worried about, or do you think that it can be handled a far as the....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] Look, as far as these differences are discussed between the Palestinians themselves and within the Palestinian arena by democratic ways, there is no problem. What is bothering us sometimes that there is a sort of intervening from other states, or a sort of a way of thinking which can use violent, statements which can lead to physical violence between the Palestinians themselves. But until now, things are under control.

[Hammad] Your are being blamed by other Palestinian factions of the opposition that you are not strong enough to forge an acceptable position regarding the final agreement with Israel. Is this a valid statement, do you think, or what is your answer to...?

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] OK, first, I am appointed by the PLO, and as far as we are implementing the policy of the PLO, which is clear, that we are for a Palestinian state, which its borders must be known as the borders of 1967, including East Jerusalem. Secondly, I am from Jerusalem, and I will fight for Jerusalem being the capital of the Palestinian state by all kinds of ways that I can. In the end, I would like to say that what we are working now for is to reach to a political solution, not to a historical one. Neither the Israelis or us are searching for a historical solution. For the Israelis, historical solution for them it means Israel from the Nile to ....

[Hammad, interrupting] ...to Euphrates.

[Al-Husayni] For us, historical solution to be Palestine from the river [Jordan] to the [Mediterranean] Sea. But this is not the case. What we are working now, all of us, is a political solution and in this very important moment. We are living in a moment of a change in the whole world, and there is a new system which is drawing now. We, the Palestinians, must find a place for us within this system. And, if there will be any change in the future, we must not allow ourselves to be the Bosnia of the next changes in this world. Maybe we will be, at least, something like Armenia. But we will not allow us, ourselves to be Bosnia.

[Hammad] If a negative change did take place—negative meaning a collapse of the peace talks, I can imagine the impact on the region. How do you see the impact of such a collapse on the Palestinians themselves and the Israelis maybe?

[Al-Husayni] Look, I don't like to see such a thing, but if it will happen, it means that we will go back to another option, one option. Now, we are working and we have all options, including the peace process, including the peace option. We can't say that we lost all of other options. We

have the right to go to other option, including fighting on the ground, including armed struggle. But we believe that now there is a possibility to solve this problem through a peaceful ways. If the peace process will collapse, unfortunately, we will enter a new era of what I call jungle. And in this case all of us, not only the Palestinians, also the Israelis, also other states in the world, and not only the Middle East, I believe also other places in this world and other areas in this world, will suffer from what will happen in the Middle East.

[Hammad] What do you think of a unipolar world, led by the United States? Will it still support Israel unconditionally if the peace talks collapse? Do you think the Americans will still have the same idea of support to Israel?

[Al-Husayni] Look, if this peace process will fall down and unstability will work in this area, it will not be also for the benefit of the United States. And, if the United States will fail internally, this administration, if they fail in Bosnia, if they will fail in Russia and then they will fail in the Middle East, I believe that the United States will not be considered in the future as the main pole who is leading the new system.

[Hammad] So do you think that a success in the Middle East peace talks is a main objective of the Clinton administration, particularly in view of the current situation now in the United States?

[Al-Husayni] Yes. That's right. And, here is also part of the Palestinian strength, that the United States know very well that no solution in the Middle East without the Palestinian side.

[Hammad] Have you seen such a feeling from the American Administration as you talk to them? Have you tried to seek ways to improve relations with the Palestinians and the PLO, resume the dialogue?

[Al-Husayni] I believe that the moment of resuming talks with the PLO is not so far. Nothing from the principle point of view can forbid the Americans from resuming these talks.

[Hammad] And, in general, are you—I know that this is a very tough question for anybody from the peace delegations to speculate or to talk about—but do you feel optimistic?

[Al-Husayni] You know I can't say I am optimistic or I am pessimistic. I am serious. You cannot ask someone who is walking on a wire between two high buildings in the middle of the walk if they are optimistic or pessimistic. He will say: I am serious. I would like to be sure that my foot is in the right place.

[Hammad] But, I mean from the way things are going at this very moment, do you feel that the wind could be in your favor?

[Al-Husayni] Yes. If we didn't have this belief, we wouldn't go ahead in the negotiations. We believe that there is a possibility, yes.

[Hammad] Mr. al-Husayni, thank you very much for being with us here, and I wish you the best of luck in the 10th round of Middle East peace talks. We hope to hear from you more encouraging and better news as the talks progress and as the Middle East peace talks near, hopefully, a positive end. Thank you very much for joining us here at "Perspectives."

[Al-Husayni] Thank you very much.

[Hammad] That was Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, the Palestinian team leader for the peace process. That is the end of this program for this week, after about a month's break, and we're glad to be back with you on the air on Jordan Television. We will meet again next Saturday night at 2100. Until then, good night.

Says U.S. Needs 'Tangible Success'

NC1506115693 Paris AFP in English 1105 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, June 15 (AFP)—The Middle East talks will make "tangible" progress when they resume Tuesday [15 June] because the U.S. Administration needs a foreign policy success, Palestinian peace team leader Faysal al-Husayni said.

Al-Husayni told Tuesday's Saudi daily AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: "Bill Clinton's administration needs a success, because it has been unable to achieve it either domestically or in Europe, where it has failed to find a satisfactory solution to the war in Bosnia."

He predicted breakthrough because "this administration now wants tangible success in the Middle East."

U.S. officials have had talks with Palestinian and Israeli negotiators to prepare the latest round of talks.

'Abd-al-Shafi, 'Urayqat Comment on Talks With U.S.

TA1406152993 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 14 Jun 93 pp 1, 15

[Excerpts] Ramallah—Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, has stressed that there is nothing encouraging in the Palestinian delegation's talks with the U.S. side. Dr.'Abd-al-Shafi made this statement in a telephone conversation with AL-QUDS.

He said that despite the Americans' previously declared positions about Jerusalem being an occupied area and the issue of settlement, now the Americans are asking us to deal with Israel's proposals.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi explained that up to this moment, the U.S. Administration has not replied to the 10 Palestinian questions, which were addressed to the U.S. side in the form of a letter of clarification.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi pointed out in this context that Israel, by its actions on the ground, is determining the final status

and depleting the document of principles of its content, while the U.S. Administration is exerting pressure for the resumption of the talks.

For his part, delegation deputy head Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat commented on the results of the Palestinian-U.S. talks, saying: Apparently, there is a great divergence between the Palestinian and U.S. positions. [passage omitted]

He emphasized that currently the basic difference centers over the measures being taken on the ground by Rabin. Those measures prejudice the final status and the future of the land, which is the main topic of negotiations.

Dr. 'Urayqat believed that the way that the Clinton administration is addressing this issue places large question marks before the peace process.

Dr. 'Urayqat came to the conclusion that the gap between the Palestinian and the U.S. side was wide. This calls the peace process into question. He stressed that the Clinton administration is not playing the role of either full partner, honest broker, or arbiter.

PLO's Sha'th: Agreement With Israel Possible Soon

TA1406135593 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 13 Jun 93 pp 1, 15

[By Tahir Shuraytah]

[Text] London—Dr. Nabil Sha'th, adviser to Yasir 'Arafat and head of the steering committee of the talks with Israel, has said that he is optimistic that some kind of an agreement will be reached with the Israeli Government by the end of this year if the negotiations continue to make headway and if new obstacles, such as the recent deportation of 400 Palestinians to Marj al-Zuhur that delayed the talks for about four months, are not placed by Israel.

In an exclusive interview with AL-QUDS, Dr. Sha'th rejected Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's proposal to allow Americans to monitor the Palestinian elections and called for full international supervision over the elections.

Dr. Sha'th disclosed that during previous rounds Israel had proposed to withdraw from the Gaza Strip in return for a heavy price, namely, nonnegotiation of Jerusalem.

Dr. Sha'th added: We accept an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza without conditions, be it through a prior agreement on withdrawal or a sudden pullout of Israeli forces.

Dr. Sha'th stressed that the Palestinian delegation always raises the issue of the IDF's measures against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

Dr. Sha'th noted that the talks were making progress in many fields, but the two main obstacles remain Jerusalem and settlement in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Dr. Sha'th called on the Palestinian people not to be impatient in obtaining gains in the talks. He said that it was not possible to obtain negotiating gains at once.

It is worth noting that Dr. Nabil Sha'th was in London to attend an educational symposium by European journalists on the Palestinian problem. The symposium was also attended by Palestinian and Israeli journalists and ended on 11 June.

PLO Official on Political Atmosphere for Talks

BR1406151693 Brussels LE SOIR in French 14 Jun 93 p 2

[Interview with 'Afif Safiyah, chief of the PLO delegation in the United Kingdom, by Baudouin Loos in London; date not given: "On The Bilateral Middle East Peace Talks"]

[Text] [Loos] The Israeli and Arab delegations are due to meet again in Washington starting next Tuesday [15 June]. What is your assessment of the political situation?

[Safiyah] For us, the frustrating thing is that, with the most moderate Israeli Government in the country's history, we still find it extremely difficult to reach an acceptable agreement. Furthermore, since the left has been in power in Israel, we have seen a major increase of repression, deportations, and arrests, with many people killed or injured.

[Loos] Yasir 'Arafat's main adviser, Nabil Sha'th, has given an assessment of the last round of negotiations that is much more optimistic than that of the PLO leader. How do you explain this discrepancy?

[Safiyah] This is mainly due to differences in temperament—the old story of the glass that is either half-full or half-empty. But as a great supporter of the peace process, I shall not try to hide my disappointment. Nevertheless, the Americans' more active participation in the ninth bilateral round is a positive factor because we have always asked that they become a full partner in the peace process. We, unfortunately, had to criticize them last month for forgetting that we, too, are a "full partner!" Of course, holding bilateral consultations only with the Israelis was an embarrassment for them... and I believe that they have come to understand that by now. This is why several prominent Palestinian representatives have been invited to come to Washington even before the talks resume there on Tuesday.

[Loos] I would like your response to the following statement by Ephaim Sneh [name as published], a Labor member of the Israeli parliament, when asked about the extent of the repression: "This is war."

[Safiyh] Being realistic does not necessarily lead to amorality or immorality. The international system provides a code of conduct as well as conventions, which govern, among other things, the behavior of occupation forces. Unfortunately, Israel denies any applicability of international conventions to the occupied territories, which they

themselves dub "disputed territories!" I would add that the Israelis' long-standing argument according to which theirs is the region's only democratic regime is quite aggravating and that using it is mere propaganda. When you are oppressed by a dictator, you end up hating a man, a regime. We are oppressed by an electoral body that every four years elects leaders who strive to negate our rights. Rabin was elected because he is seen as a hardliner. We therefore are suffering "democratic oppression." I shall even go so far as to say that I do not believe that it is possible to make 50 percent plus one of the Israelis espouse what we consider an acceptable settlement. But the proposed cohabitation of the two states is no concession on our part: It is the least that we can ask for, even though it is also the most. This is why I have been looking forward to a kind of "imposed, mutually unacceptable peace": Since the two parties involved consider Palestine as their legitimate possession, a solution consisting of two states that would coexist side by side becomes this most desirable, mutually unacceptable settlement.... And we, the Palestinians, even accepted what is plainly unreasonable, because we committed ourselves to respecting the interim five-year period leading to our independence. Of course, in the future, injustices will have to be at least partially corrected.

[Loos] To explain their intransigence, the Israelis often put forward the fear and paranoia that they are made to feel by their past and by the Arabs.

[Safiyah] Although I quite understand the legitimate concern of security, I find this argument irritating and hardly credible. I have been in personal contact with Israelis over the last 20 years, and my experience has always been the same: Due to this trauma, which they carefully maintain, all they have to say after we have presented them with our vision of a future and peaceful Middle East is a heavy-handed "we are not convinced yet." And the status quo lives on. For the security of both camps to be respected as part of a deal, I believe that we need a peace that is guaranteed by outside partners.

As for Israeli fears, I would not mind—although this does not commit anyone but myself—the United States making official their traditional and informal alliance with Israel and signing with that country a military assistance agreement for defensive purposes, after Israeli forces have departed the occupied territories and a Palestinian state has emerged.

Arab Pressure Before 10th Round of Talks Viewed

LD1106222693 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, the five-party gathering in Amman was unable to arrive at a clear announcement at the end of its meetings about a unified and coordinated Arab participation on the 10th round of negotiations in Washington. Although its final statement contained numerous indications that the five parties had accepted participation in the 10th round on the date set, i.e, on the 15th of this month, these indications lacked frankness and clarity on its immediate acceptance.

The clear and obvious repercussion in this context is the Arab disagreement, not over participation, but over the specific results that this participation can achieve. It appears that this disagreement is putting pressure, especially on our Palestinian party. As if the pressure put on us by the Israeli cordon, which has been going on for the last 10 weeks, is no longer enough, nor the economic pressure placed by the Arab cordon on the PLO with the withdrawal of allocations and aid decided upon two years ago, nor that exerted by the American blockade through Washington's refusal until now to resume its official dialogue with the PLO. International news agencies and certain political sources have revealed, as regards this disagreement, that some Arab states connected with the negotiations have threatened to close their countries to Palestinians in general if the PLO does not agree to participate in the 10th round.

With this threat, the circle of the cordon is completed by the Arabs, the Americans, and the Israelis. Does that mean that the upcoming round is the round of the complete cordon?

Whatever the case, it is assumed that the 10th round will break through all the cordons piled around our necks and will not make fast these cordons or deepen the disagreement.

PFLP Warns Kuwait Against Executing Prisoners

LD1406183393 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] today warned Kuwait of the consequences of executing the 10 Palestinians accused of cooperating with the Iraqi authorities during the Gulf War.

Algeria

Deportation of FIS Members Sought From Morocco

LD1506101293 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] The minister delegate for general security spoke officially and for the first time on the detention of Abdelhaq El-'Ayada, one of the more important leaders in the armed Islamic movement in Algeria.

His arrest was reported last Thursday in LE MATIN. In a news conference held yesterday in the branch of the general directorate for national security at Algeria's international fair at Sounub el- Bahari, Mohamed Toulba, the minister delegate for general security, in response to a question on the outcome of contacts with Morocco to hand over Abdelhaq El-'Ayada, said contacts were currently going on between Algeria and that country in the framework of existing agreements between the two countries. He did not mention the Kingdom of Morocco by name.

At the same news conference, the secretary-general for the international police organization Interpol spoke of Algeria's role in the organization and decision to hand over Rabah Kebir [former head of the Islamic Salvation Front, FIS, political committee and the sons of Abassi Madani, leader of FIS]

Raymond Kandal, the secretary-general of Interpol, said what the organization had done so far in the case of Rabah Kebir and the sons of Abassi Madani was to locate their whereabouts and inform the authorities in the country to hand them over.

Mr. Kandal added that the decision to turn in those sought by the Algerian justice was linked to the outcome of ongoing negotiations between the German and Algerian justice bodies.

The Algerian authorities officially asked the German foreign ministry on 3 June to hand over Ossama Abassi who was detained by Germany on 26 May. The report was issued by the Algerian Press Service yesterday, quoting a judicial source who clarified that the same measure [official hand over request] had been taken against Rabah Kebir on 13 June—the date the judicial authorities were officially notified of his arrest.

These clarifications follow a statement issued on the same day by the German minister of justice who said—according to AFP—that Algeria had not yet asked [Germany] for the handing over of Rabah Kebir who was sentenced to death in absentia by the special court in Algeria in the case of [blowing up] the Houari Boumediene International Airport.

Higher State Council Preparing National Conference

LD1406221893 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Algeria is getting ready to set up new political institutions. To achieve its objective the Higher State Council [HSC] has decided to hold a sort of national conference, in which, as of the end of July, the political parties will take part. This conference will have the task of reviewing the text of a referendum now planned for October. The Algerian people will have to endorse these changes. Jerome Bastian in Algiers decoded these new proposals for us:

[Bastian] A national conference—the HSC prefers a national meeting—which will bring an end to three months of dialogue and which will lay the foundations of the new institutions of the Algerian authorities. For the HSC, which should disappear at the end of the year, it is a matter, with all the parties that want to take part, of drawing up a shared platform on the content of the referendum proposed to the Algerians in October. This referendum will define the framework of the coming interim assembly which will replace the National Consultative Council, an assembly with about 240 members with legislative powers that will be limited, mainly to the reform of the electoral code with a view to general elections. This referendum will also review the collegiate presidency. From five today the HSC will be reduced to three, with powers increased for the president and diminished for the prime minister. This republican plan on the leadership of the Higher State Council therefore in the next six months wants to set up a solid transition with the agreement of all as of 1 January 1994 [as heard]. Then the real work will truly begin, a new constitution and legislative and presidential elections within 18 to 24 months. Meanwhile there is confusion in the headquarters of the political parties, who do not yet know how to board the train that is already moving. [passage omitted]

Four Islamists Condemned To Death in Constantine

LD1406215893 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Four Muslim fundamentalists have been condemned to death by the special court in Constantine in Algeria. Three of them were sentenced in absentia. The third is in prison.

Muezzins Can Call Prayers During Curfew

LD1406193793 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Ministry of Religious Affairs informs the men of religious vocation in the provinces that are under curfew that they are permitted to go to mosques to call the dawn prayers at the summer time of 0300 and after. They can do so after they obtain prior permission, and this is to enable the citizens to say the dawn prayers in their own homes.

The Ministry affirmed in a statement published today that it is imperative on the clerics—the muezzins [caller to prayers] and imams [prayer leaders]—that they obtain permission from local authorities in their own provinces so that they can go to call to prayers and say prayers at their own mosques. As for the citizens, they will have to say prayers in their own homes due to the present situation.

Egypt

Al-Jama'ah Leader Warns of Violence After Hangings

NC1406150093 Paris AFP in English 1421 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, June 14 (AFP)—A leader of the outlawed al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah on Monday warned of stepped up violence by Muslim militants following the hangings of a fundamentalist and a spy.

Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani, a key defendant facing a trial here for the murder last year of liberal author Faraj Fudah, said Sunday's hangings were part of a government effort to "liquidate al-Jama'ah leaders."

"Carrying out (death) sentences could lead to the intensification of violence and counter-violence between the al-Jama'ah and the regime," 'Abd-al-Ghani warned in court.

Police consider 'Abd-al-Ghani to be the one of the al-Jama-ah's main military chiefs.

He is also one of the key defandants in the trial of suspects accused of assassinating former Egyptian parliamentary speaker Rifa't al-Mahjub in October 1990.

Sharif Hasan Ahmad, an Afghanistan war veteran convicted of plotting to overthrow the government, was executed on Sunday along with 'Abd-al-Salam 'Ali al-Shahid, convicted of spying for Israel.

Ahmad was the first militant to be executed in a crackdown on unrest which has left 155 people dead since March last year and the first since five were hanged in 1984 for the 1981 assassination of president Anwar al-Sadat.

The al-Jama'ah has led the campaign aimed at overthrowing the secular government of President Husni Mubarak and replacing it with an Iranian-style Islamic regime.

Fighting back, Mubarak in October switched trials of fundamentalists from civil to the tougher, quicker military courts which have since passed 22 death sentences.

Seven Muslim militants convicted of attacks on tourists and another condemned to death for killing a police officer were also due to be hanged.

Hanged Lawyer Reportedly Tried To Sell Uranium

NC1506104093 Paris AFP in English 0935 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, June 15 (AFP)—An Egyptian lawyer hanged for spying had first offered to sell enriched uranium to his government before Israeli intelligence recruited him in Austria, a pro-government newspaper reported Tuesday.

Egyptian authorities turned down the offer from 'Ali 'Abd-al-Salam al-Shahid while he was on a trip home from Vienna, where had gone in 1990 to complete a doctorate in law, AL-AKHBAR newspaper said.

Al-Shahid returned to Austria where he delivered secrets about Egyptian "military technology" to Israeli intelligence who recruited him to set up a spy ring, it said.

The paper did not say how al-Shahid, a civilian, obtained the military secrets.

People he tried to recruit reported him to Egyptian authorities who then put him under surveillance and arrested him. He was convicted by a military court in May 1992, and executed on Sunday in a central Cairo prison.

A statement from the military prosector's office said al-Shahid had given military secrets to a foreign state, which officials said was Israel.

Israeli Defense Ministry spokesman Oded Ben Ami said he knew of no Egyptian spying for Israel.

Islamic Group's Involvement in Tunnel Bombing Denied

NC1406184893 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Jun 93 p 9

[Report by 'Imad Mahjub]

[Excerpt] Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani, the second defendant in the case of the assassination of [former People's Assembly speaker] Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub and a leading member of the Islamic Group, has voiced his own condemnation and the condemnation of all the group leaders inside and outside prisons of the explosion that occurred Tuesday [8 June] morning along the Pyramids road tunnel.

In a statement to AL-SHA'B during the State Security Court session on Tuesday, 'Abd-al-Ghani said: We are against shedding the blood of innocent people and terrorizing defenseless people in the Islamic nation. He added: We do not repudiate society and we reject such sinful and uncalled-for actions, which only the Israeli intelligence service, the Mosad, could carry out, as it did in the forties and fifties, to further intensify the war against Islamic youth. 'Abd-al-Ghani did not rule out the possibility that Egyptian security elements could have caused these explosions to justify continuing the military tribunals and to supply them with a new list of victims for execution, particularly since more than 150 citizens were arrested on the day of the explosion. 'Abd-al-Ghani added: The Islamic Group is eager once again to issue a statement

denying any connection with these bombings, particularly since the group has always had the courage to admit responsibility for its antiregime operations. [passage omitted]

Interior Ministry Comments on Discovery of Bombs

NC1406170693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jun (MENA)—A responsible security source at the Interior Ministry has stated that a citizen this morning reported to police the discovery of a plastic bag containing solid objects on al-Sudan Street in al-Duqqi area. The source added that security forces, leading officials from al-Jizah Security Directorate, explosives experts, and the Armed Forces' bomb squad went to the scene where the bag was found to examine the objects. All the necessary security measures to secure the area and passers- by were taken.

The source added that a cannon shell and six smoke and defensive bombs-[qanabil dukhkhan wa difa'iyah] were found inside the bag. In fact, they could not have automatically exploded the way they were found, which suggests that they had been disposed of for fear of being caught. The Public Prosecution office was notified to take the legal measures.

The source praised the positive and effective role that people's vigilance and contribution to police efforts play in confronting crime and terrorism.

Official Denies Explosives Found on Track in Asyut

NC1406141693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Asyut, 14 Jun (MENA)—Major General Mahmud 'Antar, assistant interior minister and Asyut security director, has denied a report carried by a foreign news agency that two explosive devices were found on the railroad tracks in Asyut today. Maj. Gen. 'Antar emphasized that the report is groundless, the security situation in Asyut is completely calm, and the security authorities are in control of the situation in the governorate.

Security Source Says 5 Charges Defused in al-Jizah

NC1406130893 Cairo MENA in English 1228 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Jizah, Egypt, June 14 (MENA)—Explosive experts today managed to defuse five explosive charges that were planted near an automobile and Coca Cola companies in al-Sudan Street in this governorate south of Cairo, an official security source said.

The explosive charges were tucked inside a package, he said. A 40 cm-long bomb shell fixed with a timer set to explode at the rush hour in this one of the busiest streets in the governorate was also wrapped inside the package.

At first, the security bodies thought that the package contained two explosive charges only.

Police Seize Explosives Said Intended for Bombings

NC1206082793 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 9 Jun 93 p 1

[From the "Week's Secrets" column]

[Text] Security forces last week seized a Mazda light truck on its way from Shubra al-Khaymah to Cairo loaded with crates full of explosives meant to be used in bombings in the city.

Closure of Muslim Brotherhood Paper Condemned

NC1206210893 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 8 Jun 93 p 12

[From the "Ordinary Folks" column by Muhammad 'Abd-al-Quddus: "The Assassination of a Newspaper"]

[Text] There is a big difference between free regimes and countries under autocratic rule. In the former, "all flowers blossom" and all the forces express themselves openly and legitimately. The situation is different under the repressive regimes, where everything ultimately depends on the ruler's determination and will. Regrettably, my country belongs to the latter.

We have not budged an inch from our first year of democracy. The latest irrefutable evidence of this came directly before the al-Adha 'Id [31 May], when the Muslim Brotherhood's paper was closed by a political decision. The assassinated paper was the first weekly paper published by the group since 1954, that is, the first in 40 years. All the Brotherhood's magazines in the seventies were monthly. But the regime, which brags about freedom, could not tolerate a weekly paper that speaks for the Muslim Brotherhood, so it disappeared after only four issues, because of a decision made by the authority.

It was the paper with the shortest life after 23 July 1952. It lived for one month, just like a honeymoon.

This was the fifth paper closed by this regime. The first was "SAWT AL-'ARAB," organ of the Nasirites. The Muslim Brotherhood's monthly magazine "LIWA' AL-ISLAM" was then confiscated. This was followed by the closure of the Islamic monthly magazine AL-I'TISAM after the death of its owner the late "Ahmad 'Isa 'Ashur." The government then staged a coup in the "MISR AL-FATAH" party and paper, handed them to its supporters, and refused to implement a court order to return the paper to its legal owners. The last one was the closure of the Muslim Brotherhood's weekly. Despite the closures and confiscations, the government still insists on saying it has not confiscated any opinion or broken any pen under Mubarak, although five papers have been halted and more is to come!!

Despite its short existence, the Muslim Brotherhood's paper proved its full awareness of the people's worries. It

did not confine itself to the demand to apply the shari'ah, but shed light on price rises and the effects of inflation on ordinary people. It opposed the sale of the public sector to foreigners, confronted the attempts to Westernize education and sever the Egyptian people's links with Islam, and showed interest in women's and children's issues. It was a splendid gesture by the paper, when it congratulated the Copts on their holy day. The Muslim Brotherhood's paper condemned terrorism and advocated public freedom, saying their absence was behind all the problems facing Egypt. But it did not know that it would become the victim of the police state's suppression of the entire Islamic trend in my country. The paper will reappear, God willing. The future belongs to freedom and human rights. The autocratic rule and the mentality of "With blood and soul we will defend you, o president" have disappeared from this world.

Government Not 'Interfering' in Sudan Domestic Affairs

NC1406080393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jun (MENA)—Assistant Foreign Minister Ihab Muqbil has stated that Egypt wants to maintain good relations with Sudan, indicating that there are firm principles governing their everlasting bilateral relations. He stressed that Egypt supports Sudan's unity and does not accept its partition.

Addressing the People's Assembly Arab Affairs Committee, Muqbil denied that any government body is interfering in Sudan's domestic affairs.

Dr. Mahmud Farghali, head of the Foreign Ministry's information department, said the 10th round of bilateral talks scheduled to begin in Washington tomorrow will have a role in pushing forward the peace process. He indicated that Egypt wants tangible progress at these talks to achieve stability and permanent and comprehensive peace in the region.

Farghali said cementing the Arab rank and promoting the peace talks constitute a priority for the Egyptian political leadership.

Libyans Impound 3 Fishing Boats, Arrest 19 Fishermen

NC1206201693 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 8 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by Zakariyya Fikri from Alexandria]

[Excerpt] Libyan authorities have confiscated three Egyptian fishing boats near international water and detained 19 Egyptian fishermen, including a 13-year-old boy.

The boats—Khalilallah, Kunah, and al-Hajj Habshi—were on a regular fishing trip on the Egyptian-Libyan coast, when the fishermen were surprised by Libyan coastguards surrounding their boats and forcing them to sail toward the shores of Tubruq.

The fishermen have been brought before a summary trial. Public figures in Alexandria decided to submit a protest memorandum to the Libyan ambassador in Cairo and to meet Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi for the swift release of the detained fishermen. [passage omitted]

Musa Leaves for Vienna, Comments on Abu Dhabi Meeting

NC1306144693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1418 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jun (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has said that the Damascus Declaration conference has adopted constructive and fruitful resolutions. He noted that agreement has been reached to form committees to decide the future steps to be taken by the member states. Before leaving Abu Dhabi for Vienna this afternoon, Musa said that serious discussions will start immediately on various aspects of the Damascus Declaration—both its political and economic aspects. Regarding Lebanon's membership in the Damascus Declaration, he said that this issue will be discussed in the future.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad left Abu Dhabi aboard the same plane with Musa for Vienna to take part in an international conference on human rights.

Information Minister Returns from Libya Visit

NC1206142293 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif returned to Cairo this evening following a visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Al-Sharif conveyed a message from President Husni Mubarak to brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, when he met him last night. President Mubarak's message dealt with bilateral relations, Arab and African issues, and issues relating to the scheduled African summit conference in Cairo on 28 June.

On his return, Al-Sharif said brother al-Qadhdhafi gave him a message for President Mubarak on several issues of mutual interest.

Libyan Pilgrims' Visit Said To Hold 'More Surprises'

NC1206132093 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 9 Jun 93 p 2

[Article by Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad: "The Libyan Pilgrims' Visit to Jerusalem]

[Text] At the time it happened, we and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that al-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem constituted a visit to Israel. Now we have witnessed a visit by Libyan pilgrims to Israel. Of course there is no room for comparison between an Arab head of state's trip to Israel with that of a group of pilgrims. Still, is pilgrimage to Jerusalem permissible on the grounds that Israel does not exist because it is not recognized?

Al-Qadhdhafi was foremost among the Arabs in rejecting any dealings with Israel. His rejection reached the point where he described the October war—which was a "dealing" with Israel by way of war—as a war of "getting things moving" and not a war of "liberation."

Now al-Qadhdhafi is ahead of all Arab leaders in accepting the Libyan pilgrimage to Jerusalem. This of course happened in the context of an Israeli agreement to receive those pilgrims!

We should pause and think of al-Qadhdhafi's motive in making a decision that appeared to be a move from one extreme to another. Did he want to teach Saudi Arabia a lesson after he accused its authorities of refusing to receive Libyan pilgrims arriving by air? This was unavoidable because Saudi Arabia adheres to the international air embargo on Libya.

Did al-Qadhdhafi—or some of his adherents—wish to make the Arab world think that the visit was not to Israel but to occupied Arab territories in order to suggest that Israel is not the only party that lacks a "legitimate" right to administer Arab and holy Islamic territories?

Or did al-Qadhdhafi—as Shim'on Peres claimed—wish to "utilize" Israel and use it as a "card" in his efforts to improve his ties with the new U.S. Administration and reach a satisfactory solution to the Lockerbie crisis?

The Palestinians do not doubt that al-Qadhdhafi's commitment to the Palestinian issue is irreproachable. Nevertheless, it is certain that the Libyan pilgrims' visit to Israel has angered—in addition to many Arab parties—the Palestinians themselves, who are banned from entering East Jerusalem because of Israel's recent oppressive measures.

It was inevitable the visit would end ahead of schedule—or so it was said—after the pilgrims' spokesman made a statement calling for the overthrow of Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem and maintaining it is the capital of Palestine, thus angering their Israeli hosts, in addition to the Arabs.

I still do not believe that the visit can be regarded as a mere lapse or the action of an unreasonable leader. On the contrary, I believe it illustrates how deep the inter-Arab crisis is. It shows that inter-Arab disagreements are so strong that they have precedence over the Arabs' disagreement with their traditional enemies.

For this reason, I maintain that the visit was not a transient occurrence, and that it will leave its mark. The time has gone—forever—when the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict used to adhere to a particular behavioral code. This visit foreshadows more surprises that will be so bizarre that they cannot now be foreseen.

Mubarak on Economic Reforms, Combating Terrorism

NC1306212193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2055 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has stressed that he will not agree to any IMF proposals that impinge on Egypt's sovereignty. He said that it is his nature to put the dignity and name of his country and people above all considerations, and he does not accept any foreign interference under any circumstances whatsoever.

In an interview with Samir Rajab, chief editor of MAYU, organ of the ruling National Democratic Party [NDP], Mubarak said that economic reforms are a necessity, noting at the same time that the state cares about the citizen's interest and does not want to add any burden to him.

In the interview to be published tomorrow, Monday, the president said that unemployment problems would have been aggravated and the projects that provide job opportunities would not have been established had it not been for the rebuilding of the infrastructure.

President Mubarak added: Despite the economic crisis, we have 13 new towns "which is a miracle by any criteria" and Dr. 'Atif Sidqi's government deserves to be praised because it has succeeded in undertaking a unique economic reform.

The president went on to say that the government has in fact drawn up a timetable for going to all the sites in various governorates that will be implemented soon with the aim of discussing the existing problems and finding the appropriate solutions for them. He stressed that he does not cover up any corruption and is not lenient with deviators "and if a minister deviates, then he will face the severest questioning and punishment."

On the possibility of including some businessmen in the new cabinet, President Mubarak explained that there are some reservations on this issue because the minister should be cognizant and knowledgeable about the requirements and responsibilities of ministerial work that requires both political and management acumen. He added that if any person has these conditions, then there is no objection to his being chosen.

Mubarak stressed that the social allowance has not been increased to more than 10 per cent in order to take into consideration the interest of the overwhelming majority of the people, and so that prices will not rise still higher. He added that the state had two options: either to increase the allowance rate and impose new taxes on the citizens, or to limit it to 10 per cent while protecting the people from any new taxes. He said: The second option was 100 per cent better.

Regarding the demand by some people that he should relinquish his leadership of the NDP, Mubarak said his NDP leadership is for the sake of the country's stability

because the majority is ruling and asking questions in the parliament. He said: We tried the coalition governments before the 1952 revolution and experience has proven that they were not in Egypt's interests.

On the possibility of appointing a civilian as vice president, President Mubarak stressed that he does not differentiate between a civilian or a military vice president since the important thing is that he should be qualified and have the ability to deal with everyone objectively and confidently within a democratic framework.

The president added: Militarism is not a dictatorship, because the military decision is based on the exchange of views and a discussion of all possibilities from all angles "but when the decision is made, then everyone must abide by it and it should not be contravened."

On the terrorism phenomenon, President Mubarak said that there are basically three principal means of protection, and that tackling this phenomenon is done through elimination of illiteracy, political and religious enlightenment, and the development of unregulated areas.

He noted that the government has allocated three billion pounds to develop the unregulated areas and is ready to allocate more funds according to priorities.

He also stressed that the military courts' measures are the epitome of justice and they provide all the legal guarantees. He said in this respect that he does not interfere in the military or civilian courts' rulings. He added that Egypt's laws on combating terrorism are much more lenient than the laws in many Western countries.

Paper Criticizes IMF Proposals for Economic Reforms

NC1306160993 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Jun 93 p 1

[Article by Jalal Duwaydar: "A Non-Traditional Experiment"]

[Text] The failure to reach an agreement between Egypt and the IMF on the second stage of the economic reform program—which was expected to be concluded in the past few days—cannot be regarded as a failure of the negotiations, as some opposition papers are trying to depict. It means that there is a need for more studies and research on the proposals made during the negotiations so as to reach the formula that suits our conditions.

On the other hand and away from the imagination and fabrications of some journalists working at these papers which reflect their malice, the Egyptian Government's refusal to sign the agreement confirms that it is the equal of the IMF delegation negotiators.

The government has thus stressed that it does not submit to any pressure and that it is seeking to adapt all the economic reform plan measures to the social and political reality in Egypt.

President Mubarak had already declared that Egypt will not allow the IMF or any other party to exert any pressure that compel it to adopt economic policies that are incompatible with its interests or that increase the burdens shouldered by the popular classes and thus upset social peace. He had also stressed Egypt's rejection of the IMF demands to reduce the interest on the Egyptian pound, a measure that will negatively affect its value and stability vis-a-vis foreign currencies.

Of course, differences in views on some points during the negotiations between Egypt and the IMF are conceivable but they do not mean that the doors to reaching the desired agreement have been closed. This fact was commented on yesterday by Dr. 'Atif Sidqi—the prime minister whose government has successfully shouldered the economic reform responsibility—following his lengthy talks with Faysal al-Khalidi, representative of the Arab group in the IMF. He said that there are no substantial differences between Egypt and the IMF and that the agreement will be signed soon. Al-Khalidi backed the prime minister's statement and underlined the soundness of the Egyptian policies that he will defend at the meeting of the World Bank's Executive Council.

Al-Khalidi also praised the success achieved in the Egyptian economy after the implementation of the first stage of the reforms, success that has gained Egypt the confidence of the international banking establishments. He noted the reduction in the public budget deficit and the increase in the foreign currency reserves, but he did not deny the existence of some differences in viewpoints over the timing of privatization and the amendment the trade laws.

On the other hand, sources involved in the negotiations with the IMF and the World Bank have reported that an agreement was reached that the two sides will study the disputed points so as to reach a compromise to ensure the success of the second stage of the economic reform program. These reliable sources, whose honesty cannot be doubted, added that the disputed points bear witness to Egypt's great success in achieving a balance in its fiscal policies. This success includes a reduction in the inflation rate, stabilization of the value of the Egyptian pound, increased savings, and a reduction in the public budget deficit from 25 percent to only 3.5 percent. These achievements are a testimony to the soundness of the ideas that Egypt has adhered to in its fiscal policies and that convinced the IMF to change some of its theoretical concepts on how to deal with economic problems in various countries.

As a result of the success of the Egyptian economic reform plan's financial policies, the differences are now centered on the IMF demand that the government speeds up the structural policies so as to create a balance with the achievements of the financial policies.

At the same time, Egypt believes in light of its experience and conditions that structural reform should be carried out but without having to speed it up so as to catch up with financial reform.

In order for this to be understood, structural reform, which is the bone of contention, concerns the productive process in all spheres and includes the laws on increasing productivity, the privatization of the public sector, changing the organizational framework of investments, the activation of the private sector, the effectiveness of the banking laws, and the amendment of the labor and monetary laws.

The Egyptian side's insistence on the necessity and importance of drawing up a reasonable timetable and on the priorities of the structural reforms aims to avoid the negative consequences that will increase unemployment and cause economic stagnation during the first phases of implementation and the resultant effects on social and political peace. The Egyptian side is optimistic that the IMF and the World Bank will in the end become convinced of the inevitability of making some changes to their concept of reforms so as to help the measures' success, as was the case during the first stage of the economic reform program, and that they will take into account the fact that the Egyptian experiment is not a traditional one, thus ensuring the success of all the stages of economic reform.

Once again, we say optimistically that the economic reform program is proceeding along the right course and in the people's interest. This confirms that we will reap quite soon, God willing, the fruits that will compensate us for this suffering.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Visiting President of Niger

LD1406164093 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Excerpt] The brother leader of the revolution today received President of Niger Mahamane Ousmane and his accompanying delegation, which includes Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdourahamane Hama, Interior Minister Ousmane Oumaru, and Minister of Administrative Reform and Decentralization Mohamed Ibrahim Ibba.

The meeting was attended by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir and a number of the members of the General People's Congress and the General People's Committee .

During the meeting bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest were discussed. [passage omitted]

Iran's Besharati Meets With Foreign Liaison Secretary

LD1106210193 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1845 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Jun (JANA)—Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, who is visiting the Great Jamahiriyah at the moment, renewed Iran's support and stand alongside the Great Jamahiriyah in its confrontation with the unjust coercive measures which were imposed on it as a result of the unacceptable Resolution 748.

During his meeting with the brother secretary for foreign liaison and international cooperation this evening, Brother Besharati said that the Great Jamahiriyah is a beacon that lights the way for all the lovers of freedom in the world. He praised the steadfastness of the Libyan Arab people in confronting imperialist conspiracies.

During the meeting relations of cooperation which exist between the Great Jamahiriyah and Iran were discussed and reviewed, as were the ways that can ensure bolstering and developing this cooperation with whatever serves the mutual interests of the two friendly peoples. Also a number of issues of mutual interest were discussed.

The meeting was attended by the secretary of the People's Bureau in Tehran and the Iranian ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Discusses Ties With Al-Muntasir

LD1206115393 Tehran IRNA in English 1038 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 12, IRNA—First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, currently in Tripoli, discussed bilateral relations and international issues with Libyan Foreign Minister 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir Friday, a Foreign Ministry report said here Saturday.

Besharati arrived in Tripoli at the last leg of his five-nation tour which took him to Syria, Senegal, Tunisia and Morocco as well.

Besharati said that the so-called Middle East peace talks would undoubtedly be fruitless without recognizing all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian nation. He regretted that the issue of home returning of some 415 Palestinians, expelled by the Zionist regime from their homeland, is not much paid attention to as compared to the issue of the so-called peace talks.

Cooperation Agreement Minutes Signed With Spain

LD1406171093 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Jun (JANA)—The Great Jamahiriyah and Spain signed the minutes of a joint cooperation agreement this afternoon.

The minutes of the meeting consisted of cooperation in the economic fields, oil, industry, and electricity, and increasing the size of trade flow and in student exchange between the Great Jamahiriyah and Spain.

The secretary of the economic department in the General People's Committee for External Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau and (Martinos), director general of the institute for Arab-Spanish relations, signed the minutes.

Experts from the Great Jamahiriyah and Spain attended the signing ceremony.

Egypt's Safwat al-Sharif Departs After Visit

LD1106154293 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Banghazi, al-Sayf [Jun] 11, (JANA)—This morning, Safwat al-Sharif, the Egyptian minister of information, left the Great Jamahiriya after his visit. He was seen off by the secretary of the people's committee for unity.

Mauritania

President Issues Decree, Pardon on 1989-92 Events

LD1406213093 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 2030 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] His Excellency the President of the Republic, Mr. Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, today issued law No. 23/93 which includes a pardon. The following is the text of the law:

Following the ratification by the National Assembly and the congress, the president of the republic issues the following law:

Article 1: A comprehensive and complete pardon is offered to the members of the armed and police forces who, in the period between 1 January 1989 and 17 April 1992, committed criminal acts connected with the incidents which took place among their ranks, and which led to armed operations and acts of violence; and to all the Mauritanians who committed crimes, acts of violence, and acts of terrorism, after the armed operations during the same period.

Article 2: Any complaint, record, or any other document connected with this period or with any beneficiary from this pardon should be filed without follow up.

Article 3: This law will be published in accordance with the expediency measures and is to be implemented as a law for the country.

Done in Nouakchott on 14 June 1993.

[Signed] Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya

Morocco

Election Campaign Begins in Atmosphere of 'Freedom'

LD1206143193 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The campaign for the legislative elections, due to take place on 25 June, started today throughout the kingdom. Candidates of all national political parties taking part in the election, as well as independent candidates, will be participating in this campaign.

The campaign will be taking place in an atmosphere of freedom coupled with a consciousness of the responsibility to bolster the pillars of the Moroccan democracy and an aspiration for a better future in all fields and at all levels. All legislative, material, and moral facilities have been provided to make the election campaign a successful one. Sites have been provided for putting up posters and announcements about the candidates; schedules have been drawn up and venues have been fixed for holding election speeches to explain election programs.

In addition to all this, one should remember the media, which are considered the best way of making contact between the candidates and the voters. In this respect it is noteworthy that candidates of all political parties are using their own papers; this morning their newspapers started to shed light on the various election programs. However, the most important information organs, open to all political parties taking part in the elections, are the radio and television. This reaffirms the positive strides made by the democratic process in Morocco. The national radio and television will be following up the election campaign through their coverage of election rallies due to be held by the parties. Also, representatives of all parties will be given an equal share of air time to relay their election broadcast on television and radio in order to put forward their election programs.

Equal Share of Airtime Described

LD1406165793 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jun 93

[All times are local]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The parties represented in the House of Representatives which are participating in the legislative elections will have equal allocations of air-time on television and radio of 60 minutes for each party throughout the election campaign, divided into a number of parts each lasting 10 minutes. The televised programs will be broadcast from 1930 to 2000 and from 2130 to 2200. They will be repeated the following day from 1230 to 1300 and from 1330 to 1400. The radio will broadcast recordings of the television broadcasts from from 2230 to 2300 and from 2330 to midnight, in the same order as the televised programs. These programs will be repeated on the following day, starting at 0700.

King Hassan Meets Arab League Secretary General

LD1406165993 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God make him victorious, accompanied by His Royal Highness Moulay Rachid, this afternoon at the throne hall in the royal palace in Rabat presided over a meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Following that, his majesty received at the royal court Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. This meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, and Abdellatif Fillali, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Then the noble monarch, may God preserve him, received Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, special representative of the UN secretary general in charge of the Saharan issue. This meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, Minister of State Moulay Ahmed Alaoui, Abdellatif Filali, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, his majesty's advisors Ahmed Reda Guedira and Driss Slaoui, Driss Basri, minister of the interior and information, and Morocco's permanent UN delegate Ahmed Senoussi.

World Bank Grants Loan of $449 Million for Projects

LD1406222393 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani today presided over a ceremony at the Prime Minister's offices for the signing of three agreements under which the World Bank will grant the Kingdom of Morocco loans totalling $449 million. These loans concern the financing of three projects in the areas of financing municipal equipment, dam construction, and providing housing for the benefit of those with limited incomes.

Sudan

Islamic Congress Condemns U.S. 'Genocide' in Somalia

EA1306211593 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Jun (SUNA)—The People's Arab and Islamic Congress has condemned the air raids by the U.S. Air Force against the Somali people in Mogadishu.

In a statement issued yesterday, the congress said that these raids were taking place at a time when the civil war was dying out and the Somalis were embarking on reconciliation through meetings between the opposed factions. It was hoped that the UN operation would be limited to its basic task of helping the Somalis to attain peace, rebuilding their country, and providing relief.

The statement said that reports from Somalia had confirmed that a dangerous change had occurred in the task of the present UN forces and that a great movement [as received] was being carried out in their name.

The congress called upon all peace-loving organizations and institutions to raise their voices in condemnation of what the United States was doing in Somalia and the genocide it was carrying out against the Somali people. The statement pointed out that there is nothing in the UN resolutions that allows the United States to declare war against one of the Somali factions. If the United States feels that it has surplus strength, it should use it in implementing the UN Security Council's resolutions on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The congress called on the people of Somalia to come together in national unity against what was being hatched by foreign powers against them. The congress confirmed that it was on the side of the heroic Somali people.

Minister Rules Out International Intervention

PM1406153793 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 11 Jun 93 p 7

[Report on interview with Dr. Ghazi Salah-al-Din, Sudanese minister of state for presidential affairs, by Arlit Khuri in Paris "yesterday"]

[Excerpts] Dr. Ghazi Salah-al-Din, minister of state for presidential affairs in Sudan, has ruled out the possibility of international military intervention in Sudan, "based on several international indications" and the contacts made by the Sudanese authorities on the international stage. [passage omitted]

Salah-al-Din said in an interview with AL-HAYAH in Paris yesterday that he rules out the possibility of military intervention in Sudan on the basis of "meetings held in the U.S. Congress that reached the conclusion that such an intervention would have disastrous consequences, especially as the United States under the new administration, unlike former President George Bush's administration, does not lean toward carrying out intervention operations abroad. He said that the best example of this "is the collapse of the promises made by President Bill Clinton's administration to intervene in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

He said that the international intervention operation conducted in Somalia "has achieved no success likely to encourage a similar operation in Sudan." He pointed out that the contacts that the Sudanese authorities had made with Western officials "enabled them to ascertain that intervention is unlikely."

He said that the recent round of negotiations with the southern Sudan rebels had faltered for two reasons: "The first concerns the Sudanese themselves; the second concerns the power supervising the world at present."

He pointed out that after the collapse of former Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam's regime, which was the main supporter of the rebel movement in southern Sudan, "that movement began to look for a new ally. It found it in the Western states. It exploited EC and U.S. influence to turn the world against Sudan." [passage omitted]

He pointed out that the recent negotiations "were about to produce an agreement, but the international power sponsoring Garang gave him the impression that the present situation could change in his favor by solving the internal disputes problem and restoring unity to the movement's ranks."

He said that "major attempts were made by the Western states and their representatives in the African region to unite the rebel movement's ranks, but in vain." He went on to say that the Western states had given Garang the impression that Sudan "could be subjected to a blockade or an intervention operation, thus there was no reason to rush to sign an agreement that was not in his interests."

He expressed his belief that "these suggestions gave Garang the false impression that his movement could soon be in a strong position—which prompted him not to attend the Abuja negotiations, when he had announced his intention of attending them. He went to Washington, where the U.S. Administration arranged a series of meetings for him."

He added that the second reason, which concerns the Sudanese themselves and contributed to the collapse of the recent round of negotiations, "is that the Sudanese side made concessions like federation, pluralism, and so on before the negotiations were held. These could have been used at the negotiating table instead of being offered in advance—giving the impression that the Sudanese authorities were desperate to negotiate."

He stressed that the Sudanese authorities had decided to abandon this approach "and begun to give signals to those concerned to the effect that we do not need to make further concessions and that, if Garang and those supporting him do not accept a peaceful solution to the problem, the problem can be solved without him." He pointed out that the ideal solution to the problem is not a military but, rather, a political and economic solution. [passage omitted]

On developments in the domestic situation Salah-al-Din said that the Sudanese authorities are currently preparing to form the legislative councils, which he expects to begin their work by the end of the year. He expects that to be followed by the election of a parliament for the country in the middle of next year. "This will mark the completion of a very important link in the process of building the Sudanese system. After that we will work to prepare the procedures for the presidential election."

Finance Minister Hamdi Delivers Budget Speech

EA1406183793 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Transitional National Assembly, under the chairmanship of Speaker Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, has begun debating the draft general budget and the development budget for the new financial year.

Finance Minister 'Abd-al-Rahim Hamdi delivered the budget speech. He reviewed details of the economic and financial program as well as the development projects for the second year of the comprehensive national strategy. He said that the major achievement characterizing the budget is the increase in total expenditure. He stressed that it has been decided to collect more revenue without any increase in taxation; hence, the new budget is free of any new taxes. He also stressed that the budget includes support for the southern states and some of the other states that are facing economic and security problems. The budget also agrees with the state policy aimed at lightening the burdens of life.

He said that funds have been allocated to rehabilitate radio and television as well as other media organizations, in addition to the credits set aside for the extraction of fuel.

The finance minister said that the budget for this year was based on four basic principles represented by continuing self-reliance, the continuation of the liberalization of the economy, and the continuing concentration on social subsidies [as heard]. He announced that the first objective to be set when the budget was being prepared was to reduce inflation to 45 percent.

The finance minister also dealt with the foreign exchange budget for this year. He pointed out that the performance of this budget was affected by lower exports.

Tunisia

Interior Minister Meets With Spanish Counterpart

LD1406201293 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Mr. Abdallah Kallel, minister of state and interior, held talks this morning with Spanish Interior Minister Jose Luis Corcuera. The meeting dealt with the development of the two countries, particularly the work of their respective ministries since President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's visit to Spain in May 1991 and the meeting of the grand Tunisian-Spanish joint committee in March 1993. Afterward, the two ministers co-chaired an enlarged Tunisian-Spanish working meeting, which was joined by the two countries' delegations. It was an opportunity to examine in depth the consolidation of the bilateral cooperation in all fields and, in particular, the fight against organized crime and all forms of terrorism, as well as to bolster technical cooperation and to expand the vistas for consultation between the two sides. The meeting showed the spirit of cooperation and common determination to consolidate and diversify the means for bolstering the fields of cooperation to meet the level of the two countries' aspirations. The two ministers reiterated, furthermore, the two sides' eagerness to further consolidate and bolster bilateral relations in the service of common interests and in consolidation of the bonds of friendship, understanding, and rapprochement between the two countries.

President Appoints New Ministers in Partial Reshuffle

LD1406185893 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The prime minister has announced that his excellency the president of the Republic has decided to appoint Mohamed Ben Rajeb as minister of agriculture, Ali Chaouch as minister of equipment and housing, Abderrahim Zouari as minister of youth and childhood, and Fathi Merdassi as minister of state for public health.

Mouldi Zouaoui, Charaf Eddine Galloub, and Mohamed Ben Saad will be assigned new duties.

President Announces Regional Development Incentives

LD1206175093 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] On the occasion of National Enterprise Day, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali presided over an official ceremony at Carthage Palace this morning during which he decorated a group of businessmen and entrepreneurs and honored a number of national enterprises.

After the ceremony the president delivered a speech in which he declared the start of a national campaign to employ cadres. The campaign, which will continue until 7 November, is aimed at utilizing all employment opportunities to raise the standard of training inside our enterprises and at enabling our youth and cadres, whose heavy training expenses have been shouldered by the nation, to shoulder their own responsibility and to effectively participate in development efforts.

On this occasion the president of the state also announced that due to the pioneering role of enterprises in embodying the objectives of regional development, investments carried out in the regions that enjoy encouragement will benefit from significant incentives. The most notable incentives are the subtraction of profits and income that are reinvested from taxable amounts, complete exemption from income tax or company tax for a period of 10 years, and its reduction by 50 percent within the next 10 years to guarantee the spread of development to all regions and areas. The president pointed out that, in order to achieve this, a certain method will be followed to determine the regions that will enjoy regional development assistance according to precise, objective criteria.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali talked about the new code to encourage investments and the procedural simplifications embodied in the code, confirming that, through this code, efforts have been concentrated to help enterprises to face up to the new situation. He noted that the code is considered to be the main drive and an effective tool to achieve these goals. He pointed out that the code adopts the principle of an incentive-granting mechanism vis-a-vis common privileges for the first time.

Western Sahara

Polisario Seeking Clarifications on Referendum Issue

LD1506004193 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] On the sidelines of the UN conference on human rights in Vienna, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro [Polisario] will reply to the compromise solution that pertains to the preparation of the self-determination referendum in Western Sahara.

This compromise solution was presented by UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali to Morocco and the Polisario during his recent visit to the region. Mr. Bachir Mustapha Sayed, Saharan coordinator with the UN mission on the referendum, talked to our colleague Nourddine Mousadek.

[Begin Sayed recording] The Saharan leadership has charged me with carrying the written reply to the UN secretary general. Our reply to the document that he handed over to the two sides, as a draft compromise solution, is, in fact, not final, because the final reply requires numerous clarifications and answers to numerous questions raised by many formulations and ideas that are not easy from the very outset. Their meaning is not understood from the mere reading of them, but those who introduced these ideas resorted to such formulations. It is therefore necessary to ask them for clarifications. This is also a very important issue, and this reply contains, among other things, a request for clarifications, a request for explanations, and an inquiry about the meaning of numerous ideas and formulations contained in this document.

I am fully confident that I will obtain these clarifications and answers to the queries raised by the document, a matter which would help complete the answer.

All I am saying is that we consider this document as a basis for intensifying the discussion and the negotiations between the two sides. A basis sometimes requires improvement and modification and clarification on many occasions. [end recording]

Bahrain

Diplomatic Ties Established With Czech Republic

JN1406104893 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Manama, 14 Jun (WAKH)—The State of Bahrain and the Czech Republic have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of today. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Prime Minister Receives Message From Britain's Major

LD1406214193 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] His Highness the Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah yesterday [meaning 14 June] received a message from John Major, prime minister of the United Kingdom, focusing on the traditionally strong relations between Kuwait and Britain and reiterating the British Government's commitment to strengthen such relations in all spheres.

Oman

Indian Prime Minister Arrives on Two-Day Visit

BK1406080593 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, arrived in Muscat today on a two-day official visit to Oman. He was accorded a ceremonial welcome and presented a guard of honor. The band played the national anthems of the two countries. The Omani deputy prime minister for legal affairs, Sa'id Fahd Bin-Mahmud Al Sai'd, and others, including the members of the royal family, were at the airport to receive Mr. Narasimha Rao. Before leaving for (al-Hamrati) Guest House, where the prime minister will be staying during his visit, Mr. Narasimha Rao and members of the delegation were introduced to the Omani dignitaries and members of the diplomatic corps. All India Radio special correspondent Indrajit Behal, accompanying the prime minister, reports that the present visit of Mr. Narasimha Rao is part of the continued consultations and coordination of bilateral ties and issues of mutual interest [sentence as heard]. The prime minister's important engagements today include a meeting with the Sultan of Oman, Qabus Bin-Sa'id Al Sa'id. During the visit, the two sides will sign agreements on economic, trade, and technical cooperation and in hydrocarbon sectors.

First-Day Activities Reported

BK1406161593 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao today held one-to-one talks with the Sultan of Oman, Qabus Bin-Sa'id Al Sa'id. The talks, which lasted for nearly 90 minutes, covered matters of mutual interest. Briefing newspersons, the official spokesman said the discussions covered terrorism and fundamentalism with particular reference to Pakistan. The Sultan praised India for its policy of tolerance and equality. He also explained the situation in the Gulf at length. The two sides decided to review all the projects and to take steps to implement them quickly. The sultan accepted the prime minister, Mr. Rao's, invitation to visit India.

Earlier, the representatives of the Indian community comprising NRI's [Non-Resident Indians] Economic Forum, the Indian Cultural Association, and the management of Indian schools called on the prime minister. They expressed the desire that the Government of India should extend help for setting up the institute of higher and technical education in Muscat. The prime minister assured them that he will look into the matter.

AIR [All India Radio] correspondent Inderjit Behal reports that the visit of Mr. Narasimha Rao is part of continued consultations and coordination in bilateral relations between the two countries. This was the first visit of Mr. Rao to a Gulf country and the local press today brought out special supplements hailing the visit. THE KHALEEJ TIMES in a write-up titled A Grand Design, says: Mr. Rao has done the right thing for the right reason by flying to Oman and any move that India makes to bring herself closer to the Gulf is to be lauded.

Earlier, laying the foundation stone for a new block in the Indian school, the prime minister offered to train Gulf personnel in frontier technologies. He said India is equipped to meet such training requirements. Later, addressing a meeting of prominent Indians in the Omani capital, Mr. Rao urged them to take advantage of opportunities thrown up by India's liberalized policies.

The Omani deputy prime minister, Sa'id Fahd Bin-Mahmud Al Sa'id, is hosting a banquet in honor of the prime minister.

Saudi Arabia

Kuwaiti Information Minister Pays Visit, Makes Rounds

Says No to Ties With Iraqi Supporters

LD1406010893 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0010 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 13 Jun (SPA)—His Excellency Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah this evening paid a visit to the headquarters of 'UKAZ in Jeddah during which he was received by 'UKAZ acting Director General Mr. Muhammad al-'Abdallah al-Hassun and Editor in Chief Dr. Hashim 'Abduh Hashim. [passage omitted]

His Excellency Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah excluded the possibility of cooperation with countries that sided with the Iraqi regime and supported its occupation of Kuwait.

He said "in my view, the wound is deep, and we will not at present agree to cooperate with a regime that stood against Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and sided with the aggressor."

He went on to say "some countries are trying to establish a rapprochement with the kingdom and Kuwait, and want to return to reason and rationality, and we want those countries to rectify their positions."

He pointed out that Kuwait is completely connected in the region with its sister the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in geographical, economic, and political dimensions. [passage omitted]

Meets With Prince Sultan

LD1306161393 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, received this afternoon in his office in Jeddah His Excellency Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti information minister, and the delegation accompanying him. [passage omitted]

Received by King Fahd

LD1406173893 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1508 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 14 Jun (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud has received at his office at the al-Salam Palace received His Excellency the Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah, who conveyed to him greetings from His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and from the Heir Apparent and Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Sa'ad al-Sabah. [passage omitted]

Yemen

Presidential Council Designates New Ministers

JN1006140893 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Summary From Poor Reception] The Presidential Council has issued a decree naming Ahmad 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Anisi deputy prime minister and 'Abd-al-Salam Khalid Karman minister for legal affairs and the Council of Representatives.

Salih Addresses Joint Meeting of Council, Government

JN1206135893 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpt] The Presidential Council and the government held an expanded joint meeting today, led by Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and attended by Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar, speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Presidential Council chairman opened the meeting with a statement: In the name of God, we open this expanded meeting for the Presidential Council and the government, attended by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

At the beginning, I repeat my congratulations to our Yemeni people who accomplished this great task, represented in the parliamentary elections of 27 April. While we open this expanded joint meeting after the formation of the coalition government of the General People's Congress, the Yemeni Socialist Party and the Yemeni Reform Grouping, we wish the government success in realizing the tasks stipulated in the election programs. We hope these programs are implemented so they will not become mere slogans heard without feeling by citizens. What is important is that these programs are implemented.

The president said: There are urgent tasks in the parties' programs, topped by easing the suffering of citizens caused by the high cost of living and high prices, dealing with what is left of security and administrative problems, completing the merger of the armed forces, and working out a sound economic policy. The government should be clear with the people and should face them with all facts. There is no need to hide anything in the economic and social fields; people will be aware of this new coalition experience. We are confident that this experience will be successful because our people were successful in restoring unity to the homeland, in entrenching the democratic experience on the basis of political pluralism and in holding parliamentary elections.

The president added: [Word indistinct] to look with optimism [words indistinct] we pray God to assist everybody to realize urgent political missions.

The president also said: As for foreign policy, our policy is firm, but we review what can be reviewed in a manner that does not harm the homeland's interest, and in a way that does not force Yemenis to bow their heads in the face of change.

On this occasion, I repeat my congratulations to the new government and the new ministers, who represent new blood. We reaffirm that we, in the Presidential Council, will support the government in implementing its programs and tasks, wishing it success. [passage omitted]

Jordanian Party Leader, Delegation Meet Officials

Received by Ramadan

JN1406172693 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and vice president, has asserted that by quickly and effectively rebuilding what was destroyed by the evildoers, the Iraqis have proved their superiority over the enemies and their ugly and brutal military machine.

During his reception of Talal Salim al-'Umari, secretary general of the Jordanian Democratic Arab Unionist Party, and the delegation accompanying him, Ramadan said that the Arab individual, the inheritor of the heavenly messages and the human principles and civilizations, is stronger than all the means of evil and aggression and is able to achieve victory over his enemies and to defend his fate, future, and progress.

The vice president also stressed that the sons of Arabism, regardless of their trends and affiliations, are united by their principal joint goal and fate and that they are one front against the Zionists, the imperialists, the Atlantists, and the dwarfs of the traitors, the agents, and the lowly. He pointed out that the immortal Mother of Battles will secure a strong and prosperous future for the Arab nation just as it destroyed the chapters of despair, humiliation, and subservience that were prepared by the enemies and their slaves.

Ramadan added that adhering to pan-Arab goals, as well as full readiness to offer sacrifice to achieve these goals, is effective because it made the enemies retreat from their aggressive and conspiratorial designs.

The secretary general of the Jordanian Democratic Arab Unionist Party praised the courageous pan-Arab position of the Iraqis and their leadership and people in the face of the fiercest forces of injustice and aggression, which are using all their aggressive military, economic, and media machine. The meeting was attended by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, secretary general of the Popular Arab Forces Conference.

Meet With Tariq 'Aziz

JN1506072793 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jun (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, official in charge of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today received a delegation of the Jordanian Democratic Arab Unionist Party, led by its secretary general Talal al-'Umari.

During the meeting, they reviewed relations between the two parties and ways of promoting them in the interest of the close brotherly ties between the two countries and fraternal relations between Arab states.

'Aziz asserted that the plan of awakening in Iraq, targeted by the brutal 30-state aggression, is still on track, thanks to Iraqi creative achievements in the face of the unjust blockade, opening up new prospects for the future and inspiring optimism and reassurance.

Talal al-'Umari stressed the Jordanian people's pride in the Iraqi people and wise leadership, adding: The steadfastness of our people in Iraq in the face of aggression is a symbol of Arab dignity and a source of pride for all Arabs.

Disastrous Economic Conditions in Iraq Reported

JN1406130093 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14 Jun 93 p 10

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Maryam M. Shahin "who has just returned from a working trip to Iraq"]

[Text] Searing heat, blinding sand kernels and bothersome humidity are terms used to describe the state of the weather—but in Iraq's case these are terms one could use to describe the state of the economy.

Inflation is at least 6,000 per cent of pre-war prices, unemployment is rampant and availability of the most basic commodities is often dependent on one's ability to find money needed for survival.

Although there is a black market, not everyone has access; nor can everyone or even any significant percentage of people afford any black market goods. Secondly the black market is limited in the number and the variety of items that can be found.

Frequently the goods found in indoor and under-cover black markets are limited to popular cigarettes such as Marlboro and Black Label Johnny Walker whisky and maybe some fancy cosmetics.

Medicines are scarce in the ill-famous Iraqi black market. Insulin and heart drugs, not to mention the more specialised kinds of medications, are simply not available.

The increasingly sick and immune-deficient people have no chance of a healthy recovery. Eye infections and actual blindness is on the increase, according to residents in the poor Baghdad suburb of Saddam City.

"I have high blood pressure and diabetes and no medicine,

my eyes are getting weaker.

Now my husband does many things for me because I bump into corners and break things," said Majida 'Umran, 62, a long time resident of Saddam City.

Thus the state of the economy has replaced the war as public enemy number 1.

The May move by the government in Baghdad to withdraw all British-made Iraqi currency and replace it with locally made photo-copy versions created a furor, and reportedly some heart attacks in bordering Arab states such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Jordan.

But in Baghdad it was not clear if the move permanently elevated the exchange rate of the dinar or did anything else of value for the Iraqi economy.

At the current public exchange rate (or black market rate) the average Iraqi family of 6 to 10 people receive combined earnings of $9 a month.

The Iraqi Central Bank has floated rumours that it will establish an official exchange rate at about 30 dinars to the dollar. If it does, it would mean a huge difference to the current official rate which is $3 per Iraqi dinar.

Prices of meat and eggs—for those that can still afford these luxuries—rose another 25 per cent in May. An increasing number of families is relying more and more on government food rations, which in essence cover 60 per cent of a person's daily calorie intake but only 30 per cent of their nutritional needs.

Foreign critics have raised the ration issue saying the government could make more food available through the ration system and build less bridges and monuments. While with monuments they may have a point that can hardly be said for bridges and other basic infrastructural building or rebuilding.

In fact any reconstruction projects are necessary just to alleviate the overflow of sewage caused by broken sewage pipes all over Iraq. The broken infrastructure in the south has made international headlines during the last two years but during this reporter's latest visit it was clear that many neighbourhood in the capital also have an overflow of sewage and drainage.

The government says it cannot repair without spare parts and spare parts are still offlimits to Iraq according to U.N. sanctions. Even chlorine,—desperately needed to provide clean drinking water—is still sanctioned. Small amounts brought in by aid agencies is like a drop of water in a vast sea.

The South

There are no official figures on unemployment in Iraq. But in the southern city of al-Basrah unemployment appears to be visibly higher than in other parts of Iraq. Many of its young men were volunteers in the Iraq-Iran war and of the one-million strong army, which laid off 600,000 in 1992.

Most of these young men have no technical or vocational training at all and thus are unlikely to find jobs as more than construction workers.

The reconstruction of al-Basrah's broken bridges, of which there are at least a dozen, is finally taking place on a larger and more visible scale. Previously the attention that Baghdad's reconstruction was getting was embarrassing compared to the relatively limited effort being made in the south.

But building materials are limited and spare parts make the reconstruction of most of the city, which was hit heavily both by the allies and the Iranians in the previous war, impossible.

The disastrous state of water-related infrastructure in particular is frightening.

Backed-up sewage lingers threateningly in al-Basrah suburbs waiting for its disease-carrying flies to claim its next victims.

No one this reporter talked to in al-Basrah had eaten meat in the last six months. Fish in al-Basrah, a traditional part of the southern Iraqi diet, tastes like chemicals and is literally uneatable.

But if the people in southern Iraq are genuinely hungry the people of the north appear to suffer less from this predicament. Closer to Iraq's fertile and rich soils, they live off the land and appear somehow distant from Baghdad.

People worry more about access to medicines and the availability of jobs. Food—especially large variety of vegetables as well as meat—is simply more available than in the south and Baghdad for the average citizen.

Many people live in farming communities to begin with and those that don't often have acces to them. Many Iraqi Christian communities are being kept alive by their merchant relatives who live in North America and Australia.

The souks of Mosul, the pretty Sunni Arab and Christian city of about one million inhabitants, are filled with Turkish products and a can of Coca Cola is not only newer but only half the price of its equivalent in Baghdad.

But people in the northern, Kurdish-controlled areas are beginning to suffer from their isolation from the central government. Sanctioned by Baghdad and unable to build a completely separate infrastructure, they have been hurt by their inability to trade with the Iraqi government.

Neither cheap oil nor food rations are available to the Kurds since they and the government drew control borders in October 1991.

Trade is limited to imports from Turkey at hard currency prices. Baghdad's withdrawal of the 25-dinar note made in Britain has undermined the ability of the Kurds to trade with Turkey greatly.

Unemployment, says Matin Ahmed from the town of Amadia (population 6,000), is the "most serious problem that we have."

Many Kurds are returning to the fields and becoming farmers. Most were employed by Baghdad's huge bureaucracies and government agencies at some point. These jobs have not been replaced and pensions have not been paid to rebellious Kurds by Baghdad since October 1991.

Kurds in the Dahuk governorate, where Kurdish leader Mas'ud Barzani is king, say that they want trade with

Baghdad and an end to the frontier between Iraqi-controlled areas and Kurdish-controlled areas. What they don't want is to be ruled by Baghdad.

Returning Pilgrims Report Universal Muslim Support

JN1006133493 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1046 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Three thousand, eight hundred, and fifty pilgrims have returned home by land via the Judaydah-'Ar'ar border post after performing pilgrimage rites. The pilgrims prayed to Almighty God to protect Iraq, its people, and its mujahid leader Saddam Husayn, and to guide his steps along the course of goodness and crown his excellency the president's march with certain victory, God willing.

In statements to an IRAQI NEWS AGENCY correspondent, a group of returning pilgrims affirmed that Muslim pilgrims from all over the world were unanimous in their support for Iraq and its mujahid people in their confrontation of the enemies' schemes, which seek to undermine the scientific and cultural progress of Iraq, the bastion of the Arab and Islamic nations confronting the enemies of God and the true Islamic religion.

The pilgrims indicated that the guests of the House of God from various world states prayed to God to lift the unfair embargo imposed on the Iraqi people and enhance the progress being witnessed in Iraq, which has become the beacon of Muslims all over the world, thanks to its splendid steadfastness, its exceptional courage, and its firm confrontation of the forces of infidelity and deception.

Describe Saudi Mistreatment

JN1106115893 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] A number of Iraqi pilgrims have denounced the oppressive acts and unethical conduct they received from the Saudi regime's security, intelligence, and traffic agencies during this year's hajj season.

In statements to the Iraqi News Agency correspondent, the pilgrims said the Saudi authorities practiced against Iraqi pilgrims the ugliest forms of search and abuse that violate even the most basic of the international laws and norms and the principles of honorable Islam.

They said the Iraqi pilgrims were prevented from entering Saudi towns on the road between 'Ar'ar and Holy Medina and were not given the services they received in previous years, when camps were set up along the road. The pilgrims were also kept for some eight to 10 hours on the desert road under the pretext of waiting for the car convoys to group. Members from the security, intelligence, and police agencies escorted the pilgrims convoys, thus causing hardship for them after they took five to seven days to cover the distance between 'Ar'ar and Holy Medina. This was an exposed attempt to force the Iraqi pilgrims to stop performing the rites of pilgrimage, in contravention with the pure Islamic shari'ah.

Hundreds Return From Saudi 'Detention Camps'

JN1206115493 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1042 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Samawah, 270 km southwest of Baghdad (INA)—Some 325 citizens returned to the homeland from detention camps in Saudi Arabia today.

The returnees were welcomed by the al-Muthanna deputy governor, heads of central departments, and a large crowd of citizens.

Through their shouts, the returnees expressed love for and pride in the leadership of President Saddam Husayn and voiced their absolute readiness to take part in the building of the cherished national edifice.

They denounced the inhuman treatment they received at the detention camps of the Al Sa'ud authorities, noting that it contravened the tolerant heavenly teachings.

U.S. Stance on Turkish Kurds 'Massacres' Condemned

JN1006123793 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-'IRAQ says that a new genocidal campaign is currently under way against Turkish Kurds.

The paper, which speaks for the Kurdistan Democratic Party, notes that the massacre currently under way against Turkish Kurds is being perpetrated under the guise of "partial amnesty."

The paper refutes this amnesty and describes it as a ridiculous and flimsy cover, which cannot deceive fair-minded observers who are following events and who, at the same time, are pained by the series of massacres targeting Turkish Kurds.

The Kurdish newspaper sheds light on the terms and stipulations of this partial amnesty, contending that these terms and stipulations render the amnesty a mere call for unconditional surrender without any guarantees. The paper adds that the goals meant to be achieved by this amnesty have prompted Turkish Kurds to reject it part and parcel, and to insist on bearing arms to defend themselves.

AL-'IRAQ strongly assails the silence being maintained by the godfathers of the new world order, under which the massacre targeting Turkish Kurds is being perpetrated, saying: Once again, we call into question this order, which has deliberately chosen to overlook the tragic ordeal of Turkish Kurds as well as the massacres they are being exposed to.

The Kurdish paper condemns the position of the U.S. Administration toward the tragedy of Turkish Kurds, saying: The evil pursuit of double standards, which is the hallmark of the U.S.-led new world order, is now hitting Kurds in the region.

Concluding its article, the paper says: The White House administration, which instructs its propaganda trumpets to highlight the issue of human rights, has deliberately and blatantly chosen to forget about the human rights of Turkish Kurds, which are being violated day and night.

Rabin Comments on Peace Process, Talks Resumption

Says Syrian Responses Unsatisfactory

TA1506104293 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin ended a tour of the north a short time ago. Referring to the resumption of the political talks in Washington, Prime Minister Rabin made the following remarks:

[Begin Rabin recording] As prime minister, I am obliged to exhaust the chances for peace. My positions regarding peace with Syria have been stated publicly; everything has been spelled out openly. We are willing to implement a withdrawal to secure and recognized borders on the Golan Heights. We will not discuss the geographical scope of our withdrawal until we receive a satisfactory answer regarding the essence of peace. To date, I cannot say that we have received an answer that is even close to being satisfactory. This, however, does not change my position. I believe that the government position regarding our conditions for peace with Syria enables us to face the Americans, the world, and ourselves with the knowledge that we are exhausting all the possibilities for attaining peace. [end recording]

Correspondents also asked the prime minister about the ongoing demonstrations near his office in Jerusalem and his home. He said that in his opinion, most of the demonstrators are Gush Emunim people rather than Golan Heights settlers. At the same time, he emphasized that these demonstrations are legitimate.

Seeks Interim-Arrangement Agreement

TA1406152493 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that no additional gestures will be implemented toward the Palestinians. Rabin also said he hoped the 10th round of talks beginning tomorrow will result in an agreement regarding the principles of an interim arrangement—an arrangement to be implemented in Gaza first. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen reports from the Knesset:

[Begin recording] [Hakohen] On the eve of the 10th round of talks in Washington, Prime Minister Rabin describes the situation this way: A freeze in the talks with Syria so far and stepped-up efforts to reach an arrangement with the Palestinians, to be implemented in Gaza first:

[Rabin] I think that Gaza constitutes a separate unit, and it will certainly be easier to implement that agreement there first, while also gaining experience. Later on, on the basis of an agreed upon timetable, it will be possible to implement this in Judaea and Samaria, as well.

[Hakohen] Despite the fact that Rabin expressed hopes for an agreement with the Palestinians in Washington, he clarified that there is a conceptual gap between them. Rabin said Israel is offering the Palestinians control of their daily affairs, while retaining responsibility for security and welfare of the Israeli settlers. The Palestinians, on their part, want us to give them the keys and go home. The prime minister clarified that his agreement allowing East Jerusalemites to vote for the autonomy's institutions does not constitute an agreement to implement the arrangement in Jerusalem:

[Rabin] Jerusalem is not included in the framework of the interim arrangement, rather, it is a part of the state of Israel.

[Hakohen] An argument ensued between Mr. Rabin and Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu. Netanyahu demanded to know whether Israel made clear to Syria that it will not implement a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights even in exchange for full peace. Rabin answered that Israel has indeed made such a clarification, adding that he—just like his predecessor Yitzhaq Shamir—rejected the idea of U.S. sponsored guarantees for security arrangements in the Golan Heights.

The prime minister also rejected Meretz Knesset Member Ran Kohen's demand for direct negotiations with 'Arafat. Rabin explained that this would carry the negotiations in Washington beyond the issue of an interim arrangement.

The echoes of the settlers' demonstration in the Rose Garden opposite the Knesset did not reach the committee hall. The only comment in this issue was made by the prime minister when he referred to the possibility of the existence of a Jewish underground:

[Rabin] I know nothing about the existence of an armed Jewish underground organization in Judaea and Samaria.

[A related report on Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 14 June adds: "In the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense session today, the prime minister said that if the Palestinians intend to conduct substantive discussions in the 10th round, we should reconvene the three working groups which functioned during the last round of talks. According to Rabin these working groups achieved substantive progress in the discussions on the shape of the interim arrangement, in problems relating to land and water, and in human rights issues." "Mr. Rabin emphasized that Israel is not negotiating with the PLO, but rather with the inhabitants of the territories who will be responsible for implementing the interim arrangement. When the body responsible for implementing this arrangement is established, 'Arafat will find himself in the position of Nahum Goldmann—a prestate Zionist leader who never held an official post in the state of Israel."] [end recording]

Beilin: No Peace in Middle East Without Americans

TA1406155093 Tel Aviv Educational Television Network in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin in the Jerusalem studio by Rafi Reshef on the "New Evening" program—live]

[Text] [Reshef] There is an impression that Israel is pinning low expectations on the current round of the Washington talks. Is this a tactic move or a realistic view of the situation?

[Beilin] I believe this is the most optimistic thing to do. The 10th round of talks is different because everybody pins low expectations to it—so, perhaps this time something will happen. Previously we had high expectations, and nothing happened.

[Reshef] What will be considered an achievement at the end of this round of talks?

[Beilin] Two things stand out in this round of talks: one, the increasing U.S. involvement and, two, the Palestinian prominence. I would say that everyone is waiting for the Palestinians: The Jordanians will not sign an agreement without them; the Lebanese are waiting for the Syrians; and the Syrians are also waiting for the Palestinians. In the ninth round, the Palestinians refused to sign a joint document of principles that the United States offered. If in this round of talks the Americans again present this paper and we could reach some agreement with the Palestinians—this will open the door to progress with Jordan, the Syrian, and as a result the Lebanon.

[Reshef] Incidentally, this is how Egyptian Ambassador Basyuni views the situation. He said today that he believes that it will be possible to sign a document of principles and reach agreement on the transfer of authorities, excluding the security issue, in the current round of talks.

[Beilin] Look, I will gladly share anybody's optimism. Still, after some 20 month of negotiations, 11 of which have been held under the new government, there are issues outside the scope of negotiations—such as the Palestinian money problems, which apparently was the cause for the very long delay in the previous rounds—and we can do nothing about them. Therefore, I would not like to get carried away by optimism. Naturally, we hope that progress is made. If you live in the region, and you want peace, time is not your side.

[Reshef] You mentioned the U.S. involvement. Did we receive any sign, signal, or hint that the Americans intend to be more active?

[Beilin] In principle, yes. In the previous round they, for the first time, presented their own paper and invited the parties to attend the negotiations—we came; the Palestinians decided not to. This was an important upgrading of the U.S. involvement, and if this continues, it will certainly help. If it increases further, it will help even more. There will be no peace in the Middle East without the Americans.

[Reshef] Will another round of talks without progress mean a prolonged delay?

[Beilin] I believe it will. Look, had there been no regional developments outside the negotiations, we could drag this on for many months. I, however, am very worried. Rapid and frequent changes take place in our region. Sometimes you expect nothing, and very significant things happen. It might happen that several months from today we will be facing a new situation and say: How could we have failed to anticipate this? How could we believe that we could go on like this and fail to understand that there was a time—perhaps June 1993—when we could have made a breakthrough and missed it. Therefore, another round of talks without development may be just another round, but it may also be a critical round of talks that—if no real change or progress is made in it—might lead to a deadlock. I very much hope this does not happen.

[Reshef] Thank you, Deputy Minister Beilin.

Netanyahu on Peace Talks, Settlers Rallies

TA1406091793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu by Shalom Qital—live]

[Text] [Qital] Judging by Mr. Peres' remarks and other reports, the peace talks have been steadily making progress despite the lack of any real conceptual changes in the negotiations since you began them.

[Netanyahu] What I find perplexing is that the government, the prime minister, and the foreign minister are now trying to lower expectations after raising the expectations and demands of the Arabs sky high. I remember the prime minister saying an agreement will be attained within nine months and, consequently, the Arabs coming up with vast demands. Being the side that is holding a gun and a time bomb to its own temple, we are susceptible to extortion.

Indeed, what else is left for the prime minister to give away? He actually made a long series of far-reaching concessions even before the negotiations began. Under the guise of autonomy, he gave away all of the characteristics and elements of a full-fledged state: primary legislative powers; the disbandment of the Civil Administration and the transfer of powers, including on water and land issues, to the Palestinians; the application of UN Resolution 242 and 338 to Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza; the terminal split of the Palestinians from the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation; an armed police force which, to all intents and purposes, is the nucleus of a Palestinian army; and discussion of the entire area, including Jerusalem—to this day, they refuse to say that Jerusalem is outside the autonomy and outside any arrangement.

In other words, what else is left for them to give away? The negotiations have not yet begun, and now they are saying that the Arabs, who received all this, want more. They are trying to lower the expectations at the last moment. This is too little too late or, to be more precise, the government's policy may be described as too much too late. I am sorry to say that this is not the way to attain stable peace.

[Qital] The question is whether all these moves will ultimately lead to peace or to a stalemate. In other words, if they result in peace, then one may say that you differ with the government on how much should be given away in exchange for peace. The question is whether you see an agreement being concluded soon.

[Netanyahu] I see one thing. I see this government advancing toward a notion of peace that is totally different from what may be termed peace in the Middle East. Their running after peace at any cost shows that they are prepared to pay for it with Israel's security. The significance of the series of concessions I have just enumerated—which is by no means complete; I will spare your audience the full list, because it would simply take too much time—is that Israel has not received anything in return. You asked me about the difference between us and them, and the difference is that we did not make all those concessions yet we reached the exact same point they did. Now, in order to appease the Arabs, they have actually given away the Golan Heights but have not yet received normalization. They are prepared to create a full-fledged Islamic Palestinian state in everything but name, and they call it peace.

I would like to tell you something. Former Secretary of State George Shultz was here a few days ago, and the prime minister, myself, and others heard him speak. Shultz cannot be suspected of being a Likud member. He delivered a piece of advice and a warning to all Israeli governments, regardless of their identity. He said: The main dividend of peace is peace. To attain it, do not pay for peace with the security needed to maintain it.

In other words, if it pursues this path, the government will be advancing toward a peace that will not be worth the paper it is written on, because we will have no practical ability to maintain the security required to uphold peace. I think there is a type of peace and a way of conducting the negotiations other than the absurd and sloppy way the government has been holding them.

[Qital] Mr. Netanyahu, are the stormy demonstrations near the Prime Minister's Office the tip of the iceberg of something dangerous about which the prime minister cautioned last night?

[Netanyahu] On the contrary. The right to demonstrate is a basic democratic right without which democracy would be endangered. Indeed, the demonstrators organized based on a joint decision by all the opposition factions. Demonstrating is an elementary right. I would like to say something I said yesterday during a tour of the Qatif Bloc and that I repeat on every occasion when I meet with settlers—who, by the way, are also law-abiding citizens—and with others who are concerned about the future of the state and the future of Eretz Yisra'el: Terror is terror, and it is unacceptable from any quarter whatsoever. The identity of those who engage in it is irrelevant; it is illegitimate and must be fought under all circumstances. As you probably remember from the time you were Qol Yisra'el's correspondent in Washington, I waged an international struggle against terror. Such a struggle hinges on the absolute and unconditional denunciation of terror, regardless of the identity of its perpetrators. Hence, there will be no terror here, and if there is, we will certainly object to it; however, one must bear in mind one thing: I do not see any such entity or nucleus emerging among those settlers who oppose withdrawal. I do not know whether all the talk on the issue is plain hot air or whether some isolated and deranged nucleus exists. I discern the exact opposite among the settlers and demonstrators. I feel in total solidarity with them in terms of the anxiety over a withdrawal to the 1967 borders and willingness to resort to all legitimate and nonviolent means with steadfastness, energy, and determination to thwart something that endangers Israel's security.

[Qital] Mr. Netanyahu, thank you very much.

Defense Sources Said Critical of New U.S. Demand

TA1306043693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The defense establishment and defense industries linked to national defense from the coming year will have to go through the Pentagon in conducting deals with U.S. defense firms. A new Pentagon directive bans countries receiving military aid from the U.S. from doing deals directly with American companies.

Defense sources here were critical of the move. A Qol Yisra'el reporter said it would complicate the establishment of ties with American firms, and that Israel would have to pay the Pentagon commissions of up to 10 percent.

Our correspondent adds that the affair involving convicted Air Force officer Rami Dotan, who was found guilty of embezzlement involving deals with American companies, contributed to the U.S. Administration's decision on new contracts.

U.S. Said Pressing for Much-Needed Success at Talks

TA1506102293 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Jun 93 p 2

[Editorial: "The U.S. Round"]

[Text] The round of talks opening in Washington today is supposed to differ from previous rounds on two counts: the declared low level of expectations from it and the extent of U.S. involvement in it.

Playing expectations up and down may work for those who believe expectations should play a role in negotiations. U.S. involvement, however, is an entirely different story. U.S. interests changed in the wake of the deterioration of

the President's position at home. Clinton needs achievements, and he needs them fast.

Those who do not believe in the existence of U.S. pressure had better examine the verbal carrot-and-stick method the United States has been using with us: stiffer conditions for military aid and threats regarding economic aid, on one hand, and far-reaching promises about lots of money if and when we conclude the peace process, on the other.

The 10th round will be the round of the Americans. The only chance of something coming out of it is if both we and the Palestinians come to the conclusion that we would all be better off without them.

Paper: U.S. Understanding of North Korean Ties Needed

TA1506114393 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jun 93 p B1

[Editorial: "A Deal With North Korea"]

[Text] At their meeting in Vienna yesterday, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres tried to persuade U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to withdraw his opposition to Peres' visit to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, to which he was invited six months ago.

The invitation reached Jerusalem in the wake of contacts conducted by Foreign Ministry Director General Eytan Bentzur. Although Bentzur's visit to Pyongyang was unofficial, he and his interlocutors discussed the idea/proposal that the DPRK would refrain from supplying nonconventional weapons to Iran while, in exchange, Israel would work to raise a large sum of money (about $1 billion) from U.S. Jews to finance economic projects the DPRK Government wants to promote.

The Americans, to whom Bentzur's visit was no secret, voiced their resentment at the inception of Israeli relations with a communist country, which was further exacerbated by the DPRK's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In the meantime, the DPRK has reversed this decision, but it is quite obvious that Washington does not put much stock in this reversal.

Although Israel is not pleased to enrage a friendly superpower, Peres is entitled to remind Christopher of the days when Beijing was no less of a pariah in the eyes of Washington than Pyongyang is today. Preventing Iran from acquiring nonconventional weapons, such as the Scud-C missiles with a range of 1,000 km, is a vital Israeli interest, and if we can succeed in persuading the North Koreans that it would be worth their while to drop their plans to sell missiles and other sophisticated military equipment to the Tehran government, we should not give up this attempt.

There is room to doubt that the DPRK will comply with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, but it is not Israel's place to worry about it. The United States has the power to influence the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency not to allow itself to be deceived by the DPRK, as it was by Baghdad.

The deal begun by Bentzur, which the foreign minister plans to complete, is based on the DPRK's belief that Israel "can deliver the goods" and has the ability to persuade Jewish entrepreneurs in the United States to risk investing money in a communist state whose economy is controlled by the government. The State of Israel would be taking a risk with such a commitment by its foreign minister, but if we manage to fulfill our share of the deal, we will achieve the reduction of a serious security threat. Therefore, such a commitment is worth the risk.

Words to this effect were probably uttered by our foreign minister to his U.S. counterpart, and it is hoped that they did not fall on inattentive ears. Our geographical location exposes us to threats by hostile elements which the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] cannot neutralize. This is why we must fight such threats with seemingly unorthodox methods, such as financial diplomacy. Were the United States prepared to contractually undertake to stand by us in the event of an Iranian attack on us with long-range missiles, we would be able to afford to give up dealing with the DPRK. Such a commitment, however, is not—yet—forthcoming and, given the circumstances, we are entitled to ask the U.S. leadership to show understanding regarding the constraints under which Israel must live.

Former ROK Opposition Leader Visits Jerusalem

TA1506104693 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jun 93 p A2

[Report by Yerah Tal]

[Excerpt] Kim Dae Jung, who used to be the leader of the opposition in the Republic of Korea and whom the Seoul authorities accused of being a DPRK agent, will arrive on a first visit to Israel next month.

He will be the guest of the Truman Institute of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is scheduled to deliver a lecture on 1 July about the chances of uniting the two Koreas. Kim Dae Jung is thought to have good contacts in the DPRK and is looked upon favorably by the DPRK authorities. He will arrive in the company of three ROK parliament members. The four have political meetings scheduled in Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

Knesset Rejects Opposition's No-Confidence Motions

TA1406174693 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1730 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] A short time ago the Knesset plenum rejected the no-confidence motions submitted by the Likud, Tzomet, the National Religious Party and Moledet by a majority of 54 Knesset members against 39.

Answering the motions, Minister Hayim Ramon said the government intends to sign peace agreements and submit them for Knesset approval, and only then to hold new

elections. Ramon warned the right-wing demonstrators that if they violate the law, the government will act against them severely with all the means at its disposal.

Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen notes that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was absent from today's session and did not participate in the vote.

Der'i: SHAS Request for Referendum Not Certain

TA1506100693 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Text] Interior Minister Arye Der'i told 'AL HAMISHMAR yesterday that SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] will not necessarily ask that a referendum be held prior to the signing of peace accords and that, in any event, Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef is the only authority to rule on this matter.

As is well known, the coalition agreement between Labor and SHAS stipulates that if a peace agreement entailing a territorial compromise is reached, SHAS will be entitled to ask that a referendum or early elections be held.

Der'i said yesterday for the first time that it is not certain that SHAS will ask for a referendum. He added that if SHAS Knesset members [MK's] ask that a referendum or elections be held, they will raise this matter with Rabbi Yosef, SHAS spiritual leader, and he will decide whether their recommendation will indeed be accepted. "Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef will consider and rule on the matter," Der'i stressed.

It is worth noting that on several occasions in the past, Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef ordered the SHAS MK's to vote in a manner different from their initial stands. Before the establishment of the current government, for example, the SHAS MK's opposed joining a Labor-led government. Rabbi Yosef ordered them to reach an agreement with Labor and join the coalition.

Intelligence Community Liaison to Rabin Appointed

TA1406161093 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister today appointed Reserves Major General Refa'el Vardi to examine the work of the intelligence community vis-a-vis the prime minister and to suggest a modus operandi between the prime minister and the intelligence community. This will be based on the existing method between the prime minister and the chief of staff. The prime minister notified the inner cabinet of this today.

Leaflet Instructs Settlers on Interrogation Behavior

TA1506103693 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15 Jun 93 p 3

[Report by Me'ir Turgeman]

[Text] Samaria settlers have recently received in their mailboxes leaflets titled "10 Pieces of Advice on How To Behave in a Criminal Interrogation."

No organization in Samaria has assumed responsibility for distributing the leaflets, which refer to interrogations by the police and the Shin Bet. Rahamim Ya'aqov, editor of the newsletter QOL DODI, found the leaflet in his mailbox and decided to print it in his newsletter, which is distributed in all the settlements in Samaria. Introducing the recommendations, Ya'aqov writes: "I read them. I was impressed, and I thought it would be important information for Samaria residents, described as 'arms hoarders,' who are under constant surveillance and are being wiretapped."

The following are the main points:

1. Do not lie.

2. If there is evidence against you, thundering silence strengthens the evidence of the prosecution.

3. You are under no obligation to make a confession, but if you do, you will not be commended for it.

4. Tell only the truth, but not any relevant truth.

5. It is best to give a partial alibi, although you are under no obligation to specify times.

6. Reply to questions or charges only if they are presented to you in writing. Write down your answers on the deposition form.

7. The police and the investigators are not your enemy.

8. Do not discuss politics.

9. Do not take notes at the police station. These will be impounded and used against you. It is better make notes at home.

10. Do not give more than one version.

No Injuries in Attacks Against IDF Forces in Rafah

TA1406191593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] A fragmentation grenade was hurled at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol in the Shabura refugee camp in Rafah this evening, but there were no injuries. The soldiers fired shots in the direction of the assailants. An IDF reinforcement on its way to the area was attacked with an petrol bomb, but there were no injuries in this incident as well. The soldiers returned fire, but the assailants managed to escape. The IDF sealed off the area and launched a search.

Gazans Said Imprisoned in Egypt in Harsh Conditions

TA1406170993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Seventy-four fugitives from the Gaza Strip who recently fled to Egypt are being held in the Tura Prison, near Cairo. The fugitives have recently complained to Palestinian figures in Egypt and the Gaza Strip that the Egyptian authorities will not allow them to get to Sudan. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the fugitives belong to the Islamic Jihad and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and, despite being unwanted on Egyptian soil, they are not allowed to go to Sudan due to the tension between the two countries.

Our correspondent notes that fugitives belonging to Fatah or the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine are treated differently by the Egyptian authorities. They are often transferred to the (al-Sara) refugee camp in Libya, where Palestinians have been concentrated since the war of Lebanon. From there, they go to Arab countries such as Tunis or Algiers.

Sources in Gaza told our correspondent that the fugitives held in the Tura Prison have complained about harsh conditions, but most of them are pleased that they managed to escape and were not captured by the security forces.

Conference on Torture Meets; Allegations Voiced

TA1406132193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Cases of severe physical injury and death involving Palestinians in Israeli detention centers were detailed last night at the opening of an international conference on torture. The conference has been organized in Tel Aviv by the Association of Israeli and Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights and the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel.

Later this week, the Knesset is to hear a proposal by several Knesset members that Israel introduce its own law against the use of torture. More from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Israeli and Palestinian speakers at the opening session of the conference charged that torture has become a routine part of interrogation for Palestinians arrested by the security authorities. The Israeli public at large, they said, prefers not to know or to shrug off the issue as a necessary evil in the face of Palestinian terrorism and violence. Israeli doctors, both civilians and those in reserve or regular Army service were particularly criticized for failing to act. Dr. Ruhama Martin, an Israeli psychiatrist involved for many years in human rights causes, quietly detailed a number of particularly extreme abuses, which, she said, doctors had failed to prevent or stop short. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Government Denies Charges

TA1506061093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] The Ministerial Law Committee, headed by Justice Minister David Liba'i, has decided to form a committee of experts to consider a proposed law prohibiting torture in Israel. Attorney General Yosef Harish will be chairman of the committee, which will include representatives of both the Defense Ministry and General Security Service.

Yesterday, an Israeli human rights organization, the Association of Israeli and Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights, held a press conference in Tel Aviv. The association claimed that Israel systematically tortures thousands of Palestinian detainees every year in the territories. Prime Minister Rabin's press spokesman Gad Ben-Ari denied the allegations.

Further on Appeals To Rescind Kuwaiti Death Sentences

JN1506071593 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Jordan Monday launched contacts at Arab and international levels to pressure Kuwait into rescinding death sentences passed last Saturday on 10 Jordanians convicted of aiding Iraq's 1990-91 occupation of Kuwait.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal al-Hasan summoned several ambassadors to request their assistance in helping to Save the lives of the convicted Jordanians, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The minister also instructed Jordan's permanent ambassador to the Arab League in Cairo to bring the subject to the attention of Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, who is seeking to end inter-Arab differences and heal rifts among Arab governments, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Kuwait's State Security Court, which passed the sentences, found the 10 men guilty of helping Iraq counter Kuwaiti resistance during the occupation. They were also fined $6,000 each.

"The death sentences can only deepen the Arab wounds and by no means conform with the desire of the Arab masses for transcending the consequences and the tragic results of the Gulf crisis," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He said the Jordanian and Palestinian nationals in Kuwait, "who were the main victims of the crisis, had served and lived peacefully in the emirate for decades."

The Jordanian chapter of the Arab Human Rights Organisation also expressed deep concern over the death sentences.

In a statement issued in Amman, group said it strongly condemns the "unjust sentences as they were passed by a court which had no regard whatsoever for human rights and denied the 10 Jordanians the right to defend themselves."

The group also voiced concern over the fate of several Jordanians still believed to be in Kuwaiti jails.

It appealed to world organisations, especially those attending for the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, to help pressure the Kuwaiti authorities into rescinding the death sentences and releasing the detainees.

Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat received in his office Monday a delegation representing the al-Ta'amirah tribes in the West Bank and told them that he was following up on the case of the Kuwaiti decision with the concerned parties.

Several of those sentenced to death belong to the al-Ta'amirah tribe.

Dr. 'Arabiyat was quoted as saying that the Jordanian parliament will contact Arab and foreign parliaments in an attempt to save the lives of the convicted Jordanians, some of whom were said to be university students.

He expressed hope that the Kuwaiti people will intercede on behalf of the convicted men and secure their release.

Prime Minister Queried on Peace Process, U.S. Ties

NC1506080293 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 7 Jun 93 pp 1, 13

[Interview with Jordanian Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali by AL-SAFIR correspondent Muna Sukkariyah in Amman; date not given]

[Text] [Sukkariyah] What prompted you to say a form of peace will be reached before November?

[Al-Majali] I did not say peace will be achieved before November, but I did say there are positive signs and overtures being made by both cosponsors of the peace conference that they are serious and that the United States will be an effective partner in the peace process. I sensed positive signs in the Israeli stance, especially on the Palestinian track. I stated my belief. The possibility is great, because all the sides need peace. We cannot continue with this process unless satisfactory progress is made on the Palestinian track to enable us to proceed on the other tracks.

[Sukkariyah] Can you elaborate on these positive signs on the Israeli and U.S. levels?

[Al-Majali] For the first time, the U.S. party is holding a meeting with the delegations participating in the peace talks and in the presence of the U.S. secretary of state. This is a serious overture by the new U.S. Administration. Warren Christopher emphasized this. The other point is that for the first time, the Israeli and Palestinian parties are asking to meet and seriously discuss ways to overcome the obstacles on this track. These are all new and encouraging signs. If the people believe peace will be achieved tomorrow, that's good, but the journey is long and will start with small steps. I believe these are good signs.

[Sukkariyah] Complications on the Palestinian track do not only involve the negotiations. Aren't they reflected in inter-Palestinian affairs?

[Al-Majali] You should ask the Palestinian brothers about complications in the Palestinian position. I cannot interfere in their affairs. The most salient complication on the Palestinian-Israeli track is Israel's nonrecognition of the Palestinian leadership.

[Sukkariyah] The PLO leadership?

[Al-Majali] Any leadership, because eventually the Palestinian delegation will sign on behalf of a known, acceptable, and recognized leadership. Thus, this leadership must be recognized. In this case there is only the PLO leadership and there are signs that recognition of the PLO is possible.

[Sukkariyah] From your own optimistic viewpoint, will 1993 be the year of practical progress in the peace process?

[Al-Majali] I think so. The conference did not say this in vain and there must be some good news behind this statement. We are optimistic. There is no doubt 1993 is different from 1992. The former Israeli leadership was rigid and did not move toward peace.

[Sukkariyah] What would the most outstanding features of the 10th round of peace talks be?

[Al-Majali] Anything is possible. It might start with a declaration of agreement on principles.

[Sukkariyah] On all tracks?

[Al-Majali] It is possible. We have an agenda that needs to clarify a simple point.

[Sukkariyah] Concerning what?

[al-Majali] One clause. This will be settled very quickly if we feel progress is being made on the other tracks, including the Palestinian one, and a declaration of principles on the Palestinian, Syrian, and Lebanese tracks is declared. This is what we hope and seek to achieve.

[Sukkariyah] What are the most important topics on King Husayn's agenda during his visit to Washington next week?

[Al-Majali] Jordanian-U.S. relations. Traditionally, ties are good, but they passed through a cool period during the Gulf war. Jordan's true position was not understood. At the time, Jordan wanted an Arab solution to the problem. But many clouds loomed on the horizon. I believe most of them have blown away. His Majesty King Husayn's call shows a genuine intention to clear the air and restore Arab ties to normalcy. There are also major economic issues between us and the United States that we hope to resolve in our favor.

[Sukkariyah] Assuming 1993 may usher in the start of peace in the Middle East, what are the features of the post-peace period?

[Al-Majali] The lesson we learn from history is that major events are followed by various crises—positive and negative. We must begin to think of the crises that will occur after peace. This is difficult to enumerate, but there will be a social and mental change in our thinking and views. The social and mental change that would occur after peace is different from that before peace. The war mentality is different form the peace mentality, which entails economic, social, and educational approaches.

[Sukkariyah] What are the features of the normalization of ties that may take place?

[Al-Majali] The term normalization derives from normal, meaning there are no problems between two countries or peoples. When two peoples have no problems, relations become normal.

[Sukkariyah] Isn't there talk of the possibility of a Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli confederation once Palestinian self-rule is established?

[Al-Majali] First, we do not believe in imposing anything on anyone. We are in no rush. The Palestinian people have a right to determine their future. When they obtain this right and want a relationship with Jordan, the latter will be ready and welcome any relations. Relations between us must be decided freely. We do not believe in imposing anything on others.

Response to al-Majali's Call for Arab Dialogue Urged

JN1506105693 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jun 93 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Jordan's Pan-Arab Constants]

[Text] Jordan has always adopted a clear and solid Arab policy that, above everything else, depends on championing pan-Arab interests over regional interests. It was inspired by the principles of the great Arab revolt and the aspirations of its Hashemite leadership for a united nation in which the means are designed to achieve the objectives.

Jordan dealt with these concepts and with the events and crises that faced the nation. Jordan's stands were clear and true, emanating from its belief in a bright future for its nation despite divergent interpretations and views and the estrangement among its sons from time to time.

From this premise, statements by Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali to the Qatari newspaper AL-RAYAH and the Bahraini newspaper AL-AYYAM reaffirmed that Jordan is extending its hand to its brothers without any sensitivities and with an open mind toward any proposals and initiatives, saying differences can be overcome. We are Arabs with common objectives, strategies, interests, and a shared destiny.

The prime minister's call for the restoration of Arab solidarity comes at a most difficult time for the entire nation, especially because the Arabs are approaching the stage of realizing a peace that achieves justice and restores rights to the nation and the Palestinian people.

There is no doubt that the prime minister's call for an active dialogue among the nation's intellectuals to examine ways to overcome the effects of the Gulf crisis and ways to build Arab solidarity based on deep-rooted grounds that respond to the challenges of the transitional stage that the region is facing merits a response so that the nation will not remain a prisoner of improvised reactions and stands or outside influences.

Gunmen Fail in 'Kidnap' Attempt on Briton in Beirut

NC1506055293 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0535 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Two gunmen tried to kidnap British national Michael Clark in Saqiyat al-Janzir [in Beirut] at 0700 today. They failed but stole his purse containing $1,500. Our security correspondent says the incident occurred near the Brintania Hotel.

Hizballah Statement Assails U.S. 'Crime' in Somalia

NC1506073693 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Hizballah statement on developments in Somalia; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The United States is committing a new crime against the defenseless Somali people under the cover of the United Nations. On the pretext of providing food aid and achieving peace, the United States is conducting a new colonial policy in a world approaching the 21st century, using UN institutions for the plan.

Events in Somalia, the oppressed country deprived of its decisionmaking capability, further demonstrate UN institutions' bias and subjugation to the will of the greater satan, the United States, and adoption of double standards.

We should have heard about the United Nations carrying out a military operation to deter the Serbs, who are committing aggression against Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina. There, the most hideous massacres and aggression against dignity, honor, and land continue, while countries meet in Vienna to discuss world human rights.

We denounce the massacres and acts of aggression in Somalia and draw nations' attention to them to realize their responsibility to confront the U.S.-led arrogant scheme.

Decree Issued Changing Two Ministerial Portfolios

NC1106144393 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Decree No. 3602 has just been issued appointing Minister George Afram as minister of state and Minister Ilyas Hubayqah as minister of water and electricity resources in addition to his present ministerial job [minister of state for social affairs and the handicapped].

Reshuffle Called 'Stage Production'

NC1406084093 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Unattributed political commentary: "A Precedent"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In a surprise move considered a flagrant violation of the second republic's Constitution, the president issued a decree removing the Ministry of Water and Electricity Resources from George Afram and giving it to Ilyas Hubayqah. [passage omitted]

The second paragraph of the 69th Article of the new Constitution stipulates that any minister can be dismissed with the approval of three-quarters of the Cabinet members. The 70th Article of this Constitution stipulates that the Chamber of Deputies can accuse the prime minister and other ministers of committing high treason or of violating their duties. When a minister is charged or referred to the Supreme Judicial Council for trial, he is immediately suspended from his post. This is what the Constitution says. But beyond the Constitution, those who are zealous about the president's powers welcomed the removal of Minister Afram. They regarded it as a positive shock for the government that will keep the king's sword hanging over ministers' heads.

Without getting into detail, you can ask: What is the difference between the political step of removing a minister and the behavior of a president in a democratic, parliamentary system and an amir or king in a family shaykhdom issuing decisions according to the whims of the ruler and the assessments of loyal court staff? Referring to the 69th and 70th Articles of the second republic's Constitution, former Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni said the time is gone when the president could remove a minister. Here it is, the president issued Decree No. 3602 removing the Water and Electricity Resources portfolio from the minister. On the surface, it looks as if there is no disagreement with the prime minister and his signing of the decree, which is called a republican decree. It looks as if the reshuffle process between the ministries of Hubayqah and Afram was just a clever stage production designed to limit reaction to the move, which is seen as a flagrant violation and a precedent in the second republic's Constitution. President al-Hirawi was once described as a man who resorts to clever tactics in his political adventures and who knows very well when to wield his heavy rod to fracture the Constitution, which remains tender. [passage omitted]

What does this mean? Is it enough to say that the removal of the Water and Electricity Resources minister is just a precedent? Is it enough to describe President al-Hirawi as a clever man and a tactician in stage productions and concealing constitutional violations? The issue is more complex. Clearly, it is an attempt to restore totalitarian authority to Lebanon and circumvent any constitution to benefit the uncrowned and irresponsible Lebanese king, who is regrettably called president of a democratic, parliamentary republic. The question remains: Who defends the new Constitution? What is the Chamber of Deputies' position on events?

Paper Analyzes Differences of Opposition Groups

NC1206143093 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 3 Jun 93 p 8

[Unattributed report from Riyadh]

[Excerpts] A delegation from the "United National Iraqi Congress" [UNIC] has been visiting Saudi Arabia since 24 May in response to an official invitation and will then go from Riyadh to Kuwait. According to the delegation members, the aim is to establish relations of cooperation between the UNIC on one side and Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on the other. [passage omitted]

The UNIC leadership sources said that the most important objectives of the visit to Riyadh are:

To establish relations of cooperation between the UNIC and Saudi Arabia, as the latter was not enthusiastic for such a relationship and even tried to set up an alternative organization to compete with the UNIC through elements that support it (and that reside in London and Saudi Arabia). From this premise, it is important to utilize the impetus in the new relationship between the UNIC and Saudi Arabia in order to get the pro-Saudi elements to join the UNIC.

To thwart the efforts of the "The Committee for Coordinating the National Democratic Action," [CCNDA] which is sympathetic to Iran and Syria, to set up a widely based national alliance opposed to the UNIC from the national democratic trend, the Islamic trend, and the Kurdistan Front.

To ask Saudi Arabia to allow the UNIC to supervise the Iraqi refugee camps in Saudi Arabia, especially the Rafha' and al-Artawiyah camps, and also to supervise the radio beaming to Iraq from Saudi territory.

To ask Saudi Arabia to hand over to the UNIC the value of the Iraqi oil that was ready for shipment from Saudi ports and which was stopped following the invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. The value of this is estimated at around $300 million.

To facilitate entry into the Gulf states and the establishment of relations between the UNIC and these states' governments, since Saudi Arabia is the door of entry into these countries. [passage omitted]

Relations between the UNIC and the other Iraqi opposition groups do not appear to be correct and lack harmony, particularly with the Damascus-based CCNDA.

UNIC sources said that, in view of Syria's refusal to recognize the UNIC, Jalal Talabani will soon visit Damascus at the head of a Kurdistan Front delegation to discuss with the CCNDA a concept for cooperation between the Kurds and the CCNDA, that includes the national democratic forces opposed to the UNIC, on a number of issues, the most important of which are:

1. The CCNDA is opposed to the UNIC policy of reliance on the West, particularly the United States. It believes that change in Iraq cannot be brought about through the West's plans and the Security Council resolutions, but through reliance on the Iraqi people's forces, and that regional and international relations should be utilized to serve the people's national issues.

2. The CCNDA believes that the Iraqi opposition's main task is to topple Saddam Husayn's regime and set up a pluralistic democratic alternative without getting into issues of succession that can only fragment the country's and the Iraqi opposition's unity and harm the Iraqi people's supreme interests. It believes that the other programmed tasks should be left to the Iraqi people to decide through elected democratic establishments. For example, the UNIC is insisting on federation for the Kurdish area while the CCNDA believes that, despite its recognition of the Kurdish people's national rights and its condemnation of the dictatorial regime's actions toward the Kurdish people, the shape of the Iraqi state must be decided by the Iraqi people after setting up the alternative democratic regime. It also believes that no opposition movement has the task or the authority to decide the shape of the Iraqi state.

The UNIC leaders have declared their support for drawing the borders between Iraq and Kuwait. While it condemns the invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 and the annexation policy adopted by the tyrant regime, the CCNDA believes that both Iraq and Kuwait are part of the Arab nation. Hence, the borders between them should be drawn from a pan-Arab perspective that takes the common interests of both into consideration. These borders should not be drawn under abnormal conditions like those prevailing in Iraq. The CCNDA believes that the recent UN Security Council Resolution 833 established a serious precedent in which the Security Council gets directly involved in the demarkation of the borders between two member states by siding with one state's viewpoint. Therefore, the CCNDA objects to these borders and believes that insisting on them is tantamount to transforming the dispute from one with a regime that does not represent the Iraqi people into a dispute between two fraternal peoples. Such insistence will involve an explosion that undermines the interests of the two fraternal states and serves the interests of the powers that have ambitions in the region.

3. The CCNDA distinguishes between boycotting the Iraqi regime politically and giving international support to the Iraqi people's rights on the one hand and starving the Iraqi people and watching children die because of the lack of food and medicine on the other. It therefore opposes the UNIC policy that encourages the West and the UN Security Council to maintain the lack of distinction between imposing a political blockade on the regime and punishing the Iraqi people economically for violations committed by a regime that does not represent the people and is not recognized by them.

4. The CCNDA believes that the Iraqi opposition is composed of basic trends in Iraqi society—the pan-Arab, the democratic, the Islamic, the Kurdish, and all the other nationalist trends. It therefore believes that the national opposition institutions must be made up of these powers. The leading role should not be given to powers and elements that have no links with real nationalist action and do not enjoy the Iraqi people's respect.

Christopher Stance on Ending Boycott Criticized

PM1106153893 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jun 93 p 3

[Salwa al-Ustuwani report: "Syria Criticizes Christopher's Statements on Boycott"]

[Text] Damascus—Syria yesterday strongly criticized U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's statements on the issue of ending the Arab boycott of Israel.

Authoritative Syrian sources have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the strange thing is that every time the United States makes efforts to advance the peace process it provides new evidence of its bias toward Israel and Israel's interests, forgetting the role it pledged to play—a role which necessitates that it be impartial and fair.

The sources said that the United States must look at these matters objectively and not leapfrog the peace process' main and basic line, because the boycott issue depends on the negotiations' results, the achievement of peace, and the recovery of territory.

The sources said that Christopher pledged to U.S. Jewish organizations last Monday that his country would exert its utmost efforts to end the boycott of Israel—which clearly reflects Washington's bias toward Israel, which has so far not complied with any of the constituents of the peace process.

The sources added that Syria believes that the role of a full partner loses its meaning and reality if it is not characterized by fairness and justice.

Media Views Israeli, U.S. Stands Before 10th Round

Arab 'Concessions' to Israel Cautioned

JN1406073993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Jun 93

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the newspaper AL-BA'TH says that Israeli wagering on the Arab position is futile, because in the past nine rounds of peace talks the Arab parties had confirmed that their unified position supported their common fate, and was in full harmony with the Arab nation's supreme interests.

The paper refers to Israel's anti-peace positions and to its endeavors to increase the number of rounds in order to gain time, stemming from the Israeli wagers on the positions of both the Arab parties and the peace conference cosponsors, particularly the United States.

Stressing the need to unify the Arab positions, AL-BA'TH says: No one can imagine that any Arab party would give concessions serving both the occupation and the future plans of expansion and hegemony in the region. The paper points out that concessions given by any Arab party would be regarded as a breach of both the pan-Arab commitment and the principles of the Arab-Israeli conflict. AL- BA'TH views such a breach as meaning separate or partial solutions which will only serve the Zionist ambitions.

The paper adds: The Arab side, which demonstrated its response to the peace process, has also shown much patience, which in one way or another, has revealed Israel's intransigence and attempts to evade the requirements of peace.

Concluding its editorial, AL-BA'TH urges the United States to fulfill its full partner pledge and honestly and neutrally play this role, so the 10th round of talks can achieve tangible results.

Change Urged in Israeli Position

JN1406144593 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Since Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin assumed power and until now, he has never shown readiness to implement the UN resolutions on which the peace process was based. It's been quite the opposite: With the approach of each round of negotiations in Washington, he emphasized the Israeli position rejecting these resolutions, and subsequently rejecting the terms of reference of the peace process.

Yesterday, Rabin used an occasion to declare anew that he does not want the negotiations with Syria to lead to Israel's return to the pre-1967 borders. Before that, Rabin stressed more than once that Jerusalem is not a subject for negotiations, that the city will remain the unified capital of Israel, and that negotiations with the Palestinians will not lead to a Palestinian state. He also stressed that the occupied territories, and the settlements constructed on them, will remain under Israeli military administration.

As for the Lebanese track, so far Israel has not declared its commitment to implement Resolution 425, which calls for full and immediate withdrawal from south Lebanon. Furthermore, the Israeli side still seeks to conclude a security agreement with Lebanon, similar to the 17 May Agreement, which was rejected and is rejected by the Lebanese.

These statements coincide with a military siege imposed on the occupied territories, violations of human rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and daily aggressive escalation in south Lebanon. After all these actions, Rabin and his aides try to give the illusion about a fake Israeli eagerness to have peace and to render the peace process successful. These attempts cannot deceive anyone because they totally conflict with reality, reason, and logic. When Rabin rejects implementation of international resolutions and full withdrawal from the Golan, and when he declares his hold on Jerusalem and his opposition to give the Palestinian people their full rights, he knows before anyone else that peace is impossible because what he is demanding and what he is saying conflict with peace, international resolutions, and the land-for-peace formula, which was the basis of the U.S.-Russian invitation to the Madrid conference.

The invitations to the peace conference contained U.S. reassurances that Israel will be committed to the international resolutions and will withdraw from the occupied Arab territories in return for peace. What has taken place so far, after more than a year and a half, is nothing more than sitting at the negotiation table, procrastinating, maneuvering, wasting time in discussing marginal issues, and avoiding discussion of the substance of the peace process.

These positions have prevented the realization of anything worth mentioning as progress in the peace talks. If the Israeli procrastination continues, these same positions will prevent positive results during the 10th round, which will begin tomorrow.

The Israeli negotiators went to Washington without carrying any new proposals, as Israeli Prime Ministry sources say. This is evidence that the Israelis are not serious in their efforts, that they are not concerned with peace, and that they are determined to waste the time of the 10th round as they did with the nine rounds. If the situation continues as it is—and it seems to be—and if the U.S. side does not translate the role of full partner into serious action in order to advance the peace process, then the 10th round will reach the same results reached by the previous rounds.

U.S. 'Negative Stand' Decried

JN1506083993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The 10th Round and Rabin's Statements," AL-BA'TH says: Only 24 hours before the beginning of the 10th round of peace talks, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has once again reiterated his government's previous stands rejecting withdrawal of Israeli forces to the 1967 borders. Rabin also stressed that there will be no total withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Arab heights. Rabin's statements coincide with reports about carrying out new Israeli industrial plans in the occupied Syrian heights.

AL-BA'TH adds: It is now confirmed that Israel does not want peace. Regardless of who is in power, it is clear that Israel wants to normalize its relations with the Arabs without giving anything in return. This was manifest at the multilateral talks, which greatly harmed the positions of the Arab parties participating in the peace talks.

AL-BA'TH goes on: It seems that the 10th round of peace talks will not achieve anything more than what was achieved during the previous nine rounds, since Israel's stands toward the talks have not changed.

AL-BA'TH concludes: In any event, the 10th round will begin today and the Arab parties are still eager to achieve a just, comprehensive peace based on international resolutions and the principle of land for peace. We have to wait and see how the Israeli position will be inside the negotiating rooms; how the United States will officially deal with this round; and how the full-partner role often spoken of by Washington will take shape.

On the same issue, TISHRIN says in its editorial: U.S. quarters have said the United States is determined to play a more active role as a full partner in the 10th round, and that it seeks to break the stalemate in the peace process.

Such statements are satisfactory. However, they also cause concern and increase doubts on the part of Arabs toward the United States. The Arabs have always welcomed a constructive, honest, and effective role by Washington in ending the conflict in the region. Therefore, they have encouraged the Clinton administration to be a fair, objective, impartial partner.

TISHRIN adds: The whole world is now certain that Israel is the party placing obstacles in the way of the peace process. Israel has so far prevented any progress in the negotiations, refused to implement Security Council resolutions, and spurned the principles contained in the U.S. invitation for the Madrid conference. Instead of punishing and pressuring Israel and forcing it to comply with the will of the world community, in line with its role as a full-partner, the U.S. Administration moved in the other direction, pressuring the victims of Zionist aggression, the Arabs, to force them to surrender to Israeli conditions.

TISHRIN concludes: The Arabs have joined the peace process in order to achieve a just, lasting peace that would restore their rights. They were encouraged by U.S. guarantees to go ahead with the negotiations. If Washington does not change its current negative stand, the peace process will certainly reach a dead end.

Afghanistan

Missile Attack on Kabul Kills 4 People

LD1406160693 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Seven missiles and mortar shells were fired again today at residential regions of Kabul city as a result of which four innocent and defenseless compatriots were killed and another six were injured.

A responsible security source said to the correspondent of the BAKHTAR Information Agency that these missiles which were fired from a southwestern direction landed on the first, second, and third wards. The missiles also caused heavy damage.

Government Urged To Restore Security in Kabul

LD1306175293 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The new government should take the initiative to ensure security in Kabul itself, and should not wait for anyone else to improve security for it. MAHAZ, the organ of the Mahaz-e Meli-ye Eslami-ye Afghanistan [National Islamic Front of Afghanistan], has made this point in a leading article entitled "The Government Should Start Work" in its issue no. 20 of the month of Jawza [beginning 22 May].

The paper says it is the people of Kabul who want the new government to come to Kabul so that it can bring peace to Kabul too. Referring to the situation there, the newspaper adds that Kabul residents, who have suffered this situation for more than a year, have faced many difficulties, yet they are obliged to live in this situation of insecurity. They hope therefore that the new government will also share these painful conditions. The members of the government should not consider their lives more important than those of the thousands of the residents of Kabul.

The newspaper writes: If the government not only cannot restore peace in Kabul but also does not come to Kabul because of the lack of personal safety, what should the people do? The newspaper adds: There is no special obstacle in the way of the new government's operation. The work of state and government leaders should be carried out in the permanent headquarters of the various administrations. The head of the government and his cabinet should take an oath before the president to serve the people and the country. The newspaper says: In the present situation the Afghan nation needs brave and capable leaders, so that the government may very quickly start its work through understanding and talks. It should prepare the conditions for this under certain guarantees, and should not allow opportunist elements to bring about the failure of the Jalalabad agreement. The newspaper concludes: Endurance can help attain the goal of restoring peace and security in the country.

Hezb-e Wahdat Leader on Restrictions of Civilians

LD1406192993 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] In an interview with a BBC reporter yesterday evening, Ayatollah Fazel, a leader of Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami [Islamic Unity Party], responded to a question as to whether it was true that he is preventing non-military people from leaving the areas under his control. He said: Yes, this is true. To protect the lives of these people, we are not letting them leave Kabul. It is because routes are unsafe and a large number of them have so far been killed. The (?situation) in Kabul is also (?the same).

Referring to previous battles, Ayatollah Fazel added that the loss of non-military people is very small [as heard].

A correspondent of the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY writes that Jehadi leaders in Jalalabad have agreed to keep roads open for people to travel and transport food. He adds that the international media has shown the number of victims of the recent battles to be in the thousands. Mr. Fazel's reamrks show that these victims were not in areas under the control of the Hezb-e Wahdat Party but in other areas. This is in itself an indication that those responsible for (?killing the city population) are enemies of the Islamic state.

Wahdat Forces Attack Army; Disarmament Issued

LD1406190593 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Mazari faction of the Hezb-e Wahdat [Islamic Unity Party] today attacked the positions of the units of the Islamic State toward the southwest. This attack met stiff resistance from the units of the Islamic Army and the attackers were forced to retreat.

A responsible source of the Defense Ministry of the Islamic state reported to the BAKHTAR military section that despite the Jalalabad accords and the permanent cease-fire agreed by all the jihadi leaders, the Mazari faction of the Wahdat Party, without any feelings of responsibility toward the agreements and the high interests of the country, embarked today on an aggression against the positions of the Islamic Army toward the southwest. This attack of the invaders was foiled and they were forced to retreat. The army of the Islamic State merely defended their positions and did not embark on any offensive action.

The BAKHTAR military correspondent reported that despite the Jalalabad agreement on permanent cessation of the fighting and the handing over of weapons to the Ministry of Defense's commission led by the esteemed president of the Islamic state, missile attacks have been launched against Kabul city and some forces have been fanning up tension and conflict.

The major issue at present is the start of work by the new cabinet in the country's capital, which is the headquarters of the prime ministry, and the handover of heavy weapons.

It was announced at the end of yesterday's meeting between the esteemed president of our country and the designated prime minister and leaders of the Ettehad-e Eslami [Islamic Union] that from the security point of view, the ground has been laid for the start of work by the new cabinet, and the security forces have given assurances regarding reliable security for the successful work of the cabinet. In this regard we must mention advance preparedness by the Ettehad-e Eslami Party for handing over heavy weapons; however, some other formations and figures have put forward preconditions for handing over heavy weapons which have no connection with reality.

Ayatollah Fazel, a leader of the Wahdat Islamic Party, said yesterday that Borhanoddin Rabbani's forces must first be disarmed. Observers say, however, that the country's president has no other force under his command. When, on the basis of the leaders' agreement, he takes his position as the head of the Ministry of Defense's commission for the collection of heavy weapons, at this moment the whole country is in question [sentence as heard].

This statement by esteemed Fazel is vague and unclear. Does he intend the disarming of the government? The jihadi leaders in Jalalabad have agreed on this point, that all formations have to hand over their heavy weapons to the government. The experience of the past two weeks has shown that the presence of heavy weapons is one of the factors threatening the city and a cause of the killing of innocent people.

Many people might claim that clashes including today's attack by the Wahdat party against the positions of the Islamic Army may not be a planned action. However, the occurrence of such clashes illustrates the necessity of collecting heavy weapons and preventing such clashes. Refusal or efforts to delay handing over of heavy weapons to the commission set up by the leaders themselves, as well as delaying the work of the government, will increase the people's pain and misery.

India

Armed Clashes, Fatalities Reported in Kashmir

Islamabad: Over 24 People Killed

BK1406144693 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1415 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] In occupied Kashmir, over 24 people have been martyred by Indian occupation forces in various parts of the valley. According to KMS [KASHMIR MEDIA SERVICE], seven Kashmiris were killed in detention. The Indian troops resorted to brutalities during siege and search operations in Kupwara and Baramula districts. More than 30 villages have been sealed off in the area. Five mojahedin were martyred in a clash with troops in Kupwara District, while three people were shot dead in detention.

'Militants' Among 12 Killed

BK1406160893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, 12 persons, including eight militants, died in militancy-related violence during the last 24 hours. Security forces arrested five militants and recovered a huge quantity of arms and ammunition from them. One militant surrendered with his arms. Meanwhile, the district-level screening committee of Pulwama has ordered the release of eight detenus belonging to the district.

Steps for Political Activity Planned in Kashmir

BK1506092093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, moves are afoot to make the local administration more responsive and effective. The state authorities have also initiated steps to ensure conditions conducive for restarting political activity. A spokesman of the state government says there is a positive response from the people and expressed confidence about going ahead with restoring the democratic process in the state. The governor, General K.V. Krishna Rao, has told the security forces that any complaint of custodial death, torture, molestation or any other act of highhandedness by them will be investigated and the guilty punished. These instructions, the spokesman said, are having a salutary effect on the on-going operations. The governor has held out an offer to militants that those who give up arms will be rehabilitated. A number of rehabilitation centers have already started working in the Kashmir valley.

'Positive Response' Cited on Offensive in Kashmir

BK1506094093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0839 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] New Delhi, June 15 (AFP)—Indian security forces have launched their largest combined offensive against Muslim rebels in the strife-torn state of Kashmir to revive the electoral process after a five-year hiatus, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said Tuesday.

A high-ranking state official told the news agency in Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital, that the "biggest-ever joint operation" would restore normalcy and pave the way for polls by the end of the year, the first since 1987.

"We are getting a positive response from people. The government can control militancy and ensure free and fair elections in a short time," said the state official, who was not identified.

Terming the separatists as "misled brothers" the official said rebels would be free to form new political parties or restore old ones such as the Muslim United Front.

He said the umbrella force comprising the Army, border and paramilitary guards and police would carry out intensified operations against the estimated 5,000 to 6,000 guerrillas active in the Kashmir valley.

The official said state Governor K.V. Krishna Rao had warned that instances of rape, torture or custodial deaths would be probed and the guilty punished. He said two Army soldiers were currently facing court-martial proceedings for unspecified "excesses."

Indian newspapers and foreign groups have frequently accused the security forces of human rights violations in their fight against secessionists in the country's only Muslim-majority state.

The official said security forces would not enter mosques or shrines to flush out militants and added that Krishna Rao had drawn up a "rehabilitation" package for surrendering rebels.

Kashmiri Muslim militants have been fighting since 1989 to break away from India. India accuses Pakistan of arming and training the rebels but Islamabad denies the charges.

Indigenous Tank Given to Army; Importance Cited

BK1506100293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] The first batch of the indigenously built main battle tank Arjun has been handed over to the Army marking an important milestone in its development and production. Handing over the tanks to the commander of the armored regiment somewhere in the Western Sector, the chief of the Army staff, General Rodrigues, said they will meet the operational requirements in the Western Sector. He said this is a major technological landmark in defense production. Designed to meet the Indian Army's most stringtent specifications, Arjun represents the translation of an advanced design into a reliable and effective weapon system.

Joint Naval Operation Begun To Stop Arms Smuggling

BK1106105093 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 6 Jun 93 p 11

[Text] Pune—The Indian Navy has set in motion a combined security operation with the coast guard along the Western coast to prevent smuggling activities, Navy Chief Admiral L. Ramdas said here on Saturday, reports PTI.

In an informal talk with newspersons at the National Defence Academy here, Admiral Ramdas said over 2,500 boats were boarded and checked since the beginning of the operation three weeks ago which involves joint patrolling of the coast.

"Fortunately, nothing mala fide has been found in searches", he added.

The joint operation was launched to beef up security of Westem coast some parts of which, like the Konkan area of Maharashtra, have found to be vulnerable to smuggling of gold and in recent times, of deadly weapons and explosives which were used in March 12 serial blasts in Bombay.

He said the operation had been launched along the coasts of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kerala in co-ordination with the coast guard as well as other agencies.

Admiral Ramdas said he was hopeful that work on the Phase-I of the proposed naval base at Karwar in Kamataka would begin any time within the current financial year.

The project had received sanction of Rs 300 crore from the Centre and the first phase involved building of two outer breaks of water to make the entire area workable, he said.

The building of a central pier, jetties and some workshops had also been planned in the first phase, he added.

Replying to a query, he said "no modern navy can exist without the nuclear-propelled submarine technology", but declined to comment on whether the navy was planning to buy or take on lease a nuclear-propelled submarine from abroad.

It may be recalled that INS [Indian Navy Ship] Chakra, a nuclear-propelled submarine taken on lease from the now dissolved Soviet Union, was returned to it in January 1991.

"There is no other word, its excellent", was the Navy Chief's reply to a question about the performance of women Navy officers. He said Air traffic control and communications were also being opened to women but added that sending women on ships would require some more time.

"By respecting democratic set up and ideals cherished in the Constitution, secularism and other tenets which are of great importance, I am sure, we shall be on the right track", Admiral Ramdas said.

Commentary Decries Arms Dumping in Asia, Persian Gulf

BK1206114893 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Columnist N.K. Ray Commentary]

[Text] When America, the United Kingdom, Canada, France and other European countries talk of bringing peace in the Asian continent, it looks good at the face of it. There has been a lot of intervention from the Western countries in bringing so-called peace in West Asia. America has started putting pressure on India with the help of other economically developed Western countries to sort out Kashmir problem with Pakistan so that there is peace in the region. But when looked at the way the arms are being dumped or being sold to the countries in the Asian regions, it is not only belies the hope of peace, but also baffles a political watcher whether the Western countries are really interested in bringing an era of peace in this region. Even today, the United States is in the process of issuing export licenses totaling more than $100 million to Pakistan on the grounds that the aid was cut off to Pakistan for buying spare parts, perhaps F-16 fighter planes and Cobra attack helicopters, although the U.S. administration had been allowing commercial sales of

ammunition and spare parts for cash on a case-to-case basis despite the Pressler Amendment on the ground that there was a precedent in a similar situation for doing so.

President Ronald Reagan and President Bush had been treating Pakistan as a valuable ally and a frontline state in the Western efforts to contain Soviet Communist expansion and had been supplying most modern weapons and even nuclear know-how clandestinely. President Bush continued to supply arms to Afghan Mojehedin through Pakistan. Aid worth $5.1 billion was provided to Islamabad till 1990 in addition to the $3.5 billion aid to the Afghan rebels through Pakistan from 1980-1991. It resulted in promoting an arms race between the two hostile neighbors, and it did not restrain from seeking Pakistan from seeking to acquire nuclear weapons. The missile sales to Pakistan have become blatant. Pakistan's attempt to buy 40 Mirage-2000, 200 tanks and three nuclear powered submarines from France and license-built F-70 Black Hawk helicopters from Turkey is well-known to the U.S. administration.

At least $24 billion worth of arms from the West are in the pipelines in the Arab Gulf region alone. Saudi Arabia is buying new ground attack aircraft and tanks from the United States. The neighboring United Arab Emirates is negotiating to get more than 300 new tanks and the Saudis, the Kuwaitis, and the Qataris are acquiring Patriot and Hawk missile air defense equipment worth over $5 billion. Even tiny Oman is buying new missile-armed Corvettes. Worried by Iraq's periodic saber rattling, Kuwait is spending at least $3.5 billion on arms purchases in the short term, in addition to a $12 billion spending plan over the next 12 years. With hardly any fighting man of its own, it is trying to recruit stateless persons of proven good character to beef up its armed forces. Everybody is selling to the Gulf. Britain is selling Tornado jets to the Saudis and Vickers tanks to Kuwait. France is lobbying to sell Mirage [word indistinct] guns, Abu Dhabi is a likely buyer of French tanks with German engines. China is widely believed to have sold ballistic missiles and related technologies to Iraq, Pakistan, Syria and Saudi Arabia. Russian salesmen are knocking on the region's doors mostly with cheap used weapons and rumors persist that Russian nuclear scientists are at work in Iran, Iraq, and Syria. Syria has bought Scud missiles from North Korea capable of carrying chemical warheads and is on the way to building its own. It may also already have a poison gas factory built with unwitting help from Germany. Another sinister development is the introduction of submarines to the Gulf water with Iran's purchase Kilo class submarines from Russia.

It is a well-known to the arms suppliers that the Gulf Arabs have rarely practiced harmony and goodwill toward their neighbors. Now armed to the teeth, they need to be carefully watched. Unless the Western countries reduce the arms sales to the countries in the region, there is hardly any scope of peace taking roots in the region.

Government Eager for Talks With U.S. Officials

BK1206054293 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 3 Jun 93 p 22

[By M.K. Dhar]

[Text] NEW DELHI, June 2—A Summit-level Indo-U.S. dialogue later this year to clear the misconceptions about priority bilateral issues is not ruled out as that would help redefine objectives and remove prevailing confusion.

Despite mounting U.S. pressure on India on issues ranging from non-proliferation, human rights, Kashmir and intellectual property rights, it is felt here that it should be possible to establish a rapport with the Clinton Administration as was the case with its predecessor.

A series of meetings at the level of officials in Washington are planned including the one to discuss the Super 301 issue this month and the dialogue on non-proliferation, regional security and confidence building measures in July. These are expected to help prepare the ground for a Prime Ministerial visit, apart from the efforts by the Indian ambassador, Mr. S.S. Ray.

To take care of the human rights issue, the Bill to establish a Human Rights Commission, is expected to be passed by Parliament during its monsoon session. Even members of the security forces shall be accountable for human rights violation. The forces operating in Kashmir will now function under tighter discipline in order to reduce if not altogether eliminate, complaints of human rights abuses during operations.

President Clinton's perception of the situation in South Asia is based on reports by officials of the State and other departments who suffer from a certain bias. Just as the first meeting between former President Ronald Reagan and the late Mrs. Indira Gandhi had helped break the ice in Indo-U.S. relations, the expectation here is that a summit between President Clinton and Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao may help clear the misconceptions and lay the foundations of a new and lasting partnership with the Democratic Administration.

The Indian side will not be deterred from pursuing the Summit idea by the controversy generated by certain observations by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State John R. Malott, whose sledgehammer diplomacy has left officials here wondering about the course which relations between the two countries will take. Added to that the probing mission to Kashmir by Ms. Robin Lynn Raphel, who is slated to take over as the Principal Deputy Additional Secretary of State, has raised doubts about a solution of the problem the Clinton Administration may be interested in promoting.

The U.S. objectives in South Asia are defined as encouraging regional stability and non-proliferation, promoting democracy and respect for human rights, encouraging economic reforms and obtaining greater access for its trade and investment, countering terrorism and narcotics, preserving unhampered maritime and naval transit rights,

and seek a solution to the Kashmir issue to reduce tension and prevent a possible nuclear war between India and Pakistan. Though Mr. Malott indulged in blunt talk during his recent New Delhi visit, the Indian side conveyed that the Clinton Administration did not seem to take a serious view of Pakistan's sponsorship of international terrorism and it was doubtful whether any action against Islamabad would be taken.

The White House report to the Congress last month even referred to "action by both sides to cease support for militants who commit terrorist acts on the other" as among the measures needed to reduce tension and enhance regional security and stability. The allusion "both sides" has remained unexplained to date. The U.S. Administration apparently feels that Islamabad's total isolation may not achieve the desired goals particularly because of it having acquired nuclear capability.

A fair and impartial assessment of the damage Pakistan's proxy war in Kashmir is causing to the Indian economy, in addition to the loss of human lives and property, has apparently not been made by the Clinton Administration. It has been told that India has behaved with restraint in the face of serious provocations and prevented the situation from escalating into a full-scale war between the two countries.

Tbe Indian side has also conveyed that for a country which has not been subjected to terrorism on such a large scale as India, it is difficult for the U.S. to perceive the damage it does to people's morale and the strain it imposes on the already over-stretched security forces.

India was not adopting a "holier than thou" attitude on the issue of human rights nor denying that violations have taken place. The Government has been quick to punish the guilty and is making every effort to ensure that the forces behave with restraint and act under strict discipline. There has been no U.S. condemnation of the "ethnic cleansing" undertaken by Pakistan in the Kashmir Valley through terrorists equipped and financed by it resulting in migration of the entire Hindu population.

It was pointed out that former CIA Director Robert Gates had in 1990 admitted that Islamabad has been asked to close down over 30 training camps for Kashmir terrorists.

The U.S. law clearly defined state sponsor of terrorism as one involving significant financial, political, and diplomatic support to terrorists, operating military or paramilitary training camps and offering sanctuaries from prosecution. On all these counts Pakistan should be held guilty.

It has also been clarified that the U.S. often overlooked gross human rights abuses committed by its allies including some of the Gulf kingdoms and sheikhdoms where neither democracy nor rule of law, as defined by the United Nations itself, prevails.

As regards India's refusal to sign the NPT, the U.S. does not seem to share fully New Delhi's security concerns vis-a-vis Chinese nuclear build-up. Attention has accordingly been drawn to the long- standing Sino-Pakistan defence cooperation under which even the design of a nuclear bomb was passed on to Islamabad in addition to M-11 missiles (in contravention of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) guidelines) and a 300 MW nuclear reactor.

The Chinese nuclear missiles deployed in Tibet were aimed at India as were the Chinese supplied missiles in Pakistan. However, India has shown willingness to keep the non-proliferation dialogue going at the level of the foreign office officials in Washington next month.

As regards Kashmir, India is opposed to throwing into doubt the legal and constitutional status of the State and does not accept the U.S. proposition that the entire State is disputed territory. It is also opposed to any solution which would make Kashmir an independent State or be jointly controlled by India and Pakistan.

These proposals were made earlier also during Mr. Jawahar Lal Nehru's Prime Ministership and were found unacceptable. Any attempt to ignore the background to the Simla Accord, which envisages a step by step approach to normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan after the 1971 war, would only display lack of realism in appraising the present situation.

Commentary Details New Scheme To Boost Exports

BK1506053493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Commentary by S. Venkatachalam of BUSINESS STANDARD: "More Concessions under Export-Import Policy"]

[Text] Taking the trade reform process further, the government has conceded yet another new facility to exporters. They have been made eligible for quantity-based advance licenses under their production program for a value equal to 25 percent of the average free on board, FOB, value of their exports in the preceding three licensing years. This facility will be in lieu of the entitlements against specific orders under the Advance License Scheme of 1992-97 export-import policy. Under the policy, as amended on 1 April this year, duty-free licenses are available for exporters on production program basis. The intention is to maintain the continuity of exports. Such licenses are issued for a value not exceeding 25 percent of the average FOB value of exports of an existing exporter during the preceding three licensing years.

With the new facility, exporters will be able to take advantage of bulk imports against the licenses that they have been pleading in order to reduce cost and emerge more competitive in the international market. They will be able to import raw materials, intermediates, components, consumables, parts, accessories, packing materials, and computer software free of customs duty for their export production. According to an official announcement by the Commerce Ministry yesterday, advance intermediate licenses may also be granted on production program basis

in accordance with the criteria laid down in the policy within the overall entitlement. The advance intermediate license holders have the option either to supply the intermediate product to an advance license holder or to export it directly. This will give a fillip to indigenous production and save considerable amount in foreign exchange which otherwise may have been spent by an exporter in importing the intermediate product. The 100 percent increase in the value of a duty-free license now allowed will not, however, apply to other exporters, that is, those who are not regularly in the export field. The Advance License Scheme has been substantially liberalized in the past few years. Standard input, output, and value addition norms have been published for over 2,300 export items, including the 92 new items added last week under the scheme. With the norms, the issue of licenses will be greatly facilitated. Under the scheme, both the quantity and value-based advance licenses are being continued. To eliminate misuse of the value-based advance licenses, the license holder will have to achieve both the quantity and FOB value of the exports specified in the licenses. Monitoring of the export obligation by duty-free license holders will also be strengthened.

Iran

President Receives Congratulations on Election Win

LD1406175593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The heads of the Republics of Pakistan, Turkey, and Turkmenistan, and the kings of Arabia and Oman have sent congratulatory mesages to Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his re-election as president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni has also sent a message of congratulations to Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The message states: We hope that your excellency will, just as in the past, put all your efforts into carrying out the edicts of Almighty God, and fortifying the system and improving the country's economy.

The chief of staff of the Armed Forces and the Union of the Student islamic Societies issued separate communiques expressing congratulations on Hashemi-Rafsanjani's victory in the sixth round of the presidential elections.

Yeltsin Congratulates President

LD1506105393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Sergey Mikhaylovich Tretyakov, the new Russian ambassador to Iran, met President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning to present his credentials. According to the Presidency's Public Relations Office, in the course of the meeting the Russian ambassador first presented a message from Boris Yeltsin, that country's president, congratulating Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his re- election. In the message, the Russian president said he is certain that mutual cooperation between Iran and Russia will help strengthen peace and well-being in the region and the world.

Then, the Russian ambassador said that the expansion of ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran was one of his country's foreign policy priorities, adding: The two countries enjoy good capabilities for resolving diificulties and regional and international problems. They can play a more effective role in the establishment and consolidation of peace and stability in the region and the world.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani then expressed gratitude for the Russian president's kind message and stressed the importance of increasing political, technical, and economic bilateral cooperation. Our country's president described Russia as a good regional partner and concluded by expressing the hope that that country would overcome its current difficulties with success.

Mohtashemi Criticizes President's Performance

NC1206104593 Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian 27 May 93 p 2

["Last" part of interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, former Tehran Majles deputy, and member of Tehran Militant Clerics Association in Tehran—date not given]

[Excerpts] [JAHAN-E ESLAM] In the free market economy policy that has been implemented in the past four years, have individuals and groups with limited incomes been able to undertake entrepreneurial activities, or has the field been open only to major investors?

[Mohtashemi] As a prologue to my answer, I should state that the president had made lavish promises to the people about extensive welfare schemes and reducing the prices of essential goods immediately after his election and when his cabinet assumed office at the beginning of his present term. Simultaneously, he repeatedly stated that indigenous production would be increased by 100 percent, factories would be put into operation, and that dependence on foreign countries would be reduced. On the other hand, he made promises to the people regarding the policy of economic adjustment, introduction of a single parity rate for foreign exchange, and the promise of a gradual and phased reduction of foreign exchange rates. There was even talk of stabilizing the exchange rate of the dollar at 70 tumans or even less.

Not even one of his promises has materialized. Prices spiralled enormously as a result of recent government policies on eliminating price controls and price-fixing, and even the cost of government services has soared considerably. A spate of foreign goods inundated the country's markets as a result of which several small and large government and private factories were forced to close down. Eventually, the foreign exchange rates started a swift upward trend, contrary to the promises. Now about your question:

I believe the issue is quite clear, that is the current economic policy is tantamount to letting the economy run amok, and not to keep it in check. At one time, the policy was to emulate the Western model. At another time, the eastern model was followed, and on occasion, it is stated that we are to adopt the Islamic economic system. [passage omitted]

Economic power lies in the hands of the major entrepreneurs, and government policy is such that there is no law or regulation to control or rein in the excessiveness of the investors. Thus, the economic policies of the past four years are in contravention with the spirit of the Constitution and the Revolution and are not to the benefit of the deprived and impoverished people of the country. The rich investors and affluent people have become even richer and have further enhanced their wealth.

In this manner, the chasm between the rich and the poor has become wider and deeper. If the economic situation continues in such a way, a catastrophe will occur and the major investors should fear the day when the deprived and penurious masses will reach the end of their endurance and will have no option but to seek vindication of their rights.

Of course, it is the government's obligation to assure the vindication of rights and to legislate the society's economic relations in such a way so that all strata of people benefit, and the economy should be based on social welfare. If the government does not fulfill its obligation there is no guarantee that peace will continue. [passage omitted]

[JAHAN-E ESLAM] What is the reason that Hashemi-Rafsanjani's government does not consider elections in the various Councils as a serious matter?

[Mohtashemi] In my opinion, the Councils are not now conforming to the programs of the government. The government believes in centralizing power, but the Councils are seeking the decentralization of power and the distribution of authority among the people. In any case, every individual seems to hold a particular belief and is following his own policy. [passage omitted]

There is a series of questions that arise in one's mind which should be answered. For example, what are the powers of the president? What are the tasks he should perform? What expectations should the people have from a president, and who is a successful president? Is a successful president one who can fill the bellies of the people and provide them with food and water, or one who can create a suitable welfare economy, or one who succeeds in the economic development of the country?

If the economic conditions of the people are relatively comfortable, but the people do not enjoy political, cultural, and financial security, or the safety of their honor and their lives, is that government a successful one?

After the leader, the president is the highest official authority in the country and is responsible for the implementation of the Constitution, and he also heads the executive branch of the government. In addition, the president is also responsible for planning, the budget, and administrative and recruitment affairs. In fact, according to the recent amendment to the Constitution, the president personally introduces cabinet ministers to the Majles to seek a vote of confidence, and he directly supervises the work of the ministers. The cabinet only adopts decisions and implements them on the recommendation of the president. [passage omitted]

The most important obligations and responsibilities of the government and the president are to ensure security in all aspects including the safety of life, property, honor, and prestige, and political, social, and cultural security, along with security of borders, highways, outlying areas, cities and villages. Security of the nation is more important than all other considerations.

If the people do not have security, they will never be happy regardless of how comfortable they may be. The following are for anyone aspiring to be president:

1. He should declare that ensuring security was his program in the past and will be in the future as well.

2. The system of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Constitution are the fruit of the blood that has been shed by the martyrs of this land and of the struggles of the Iranian nation under the leadership of his eminence the imam (may God be pleased with him). Safeguarding its boundaries and implementing the valuable Islamic tenets is also the obligation of the president, who should elaborate on his program and on the manner in which he intends to carry out the guardianship of religion, the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and its Constitution.

3. Preserving the gains of the revolution, defending the Hezbollah forces and revolutionary institutions, supporting the deprived and oppressed strata, protecting the country's boundaries, warding off aggression and political and economic onslaughts by the enemy, defending the territorial integrity and the interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Iranian nation against foreign countries, ensuring and guaranteeing the independence and freedom of Iran in practice—these are all among the important obligations and responsibilities of the one who aspires to be president. Therefore, he should explain his program to the people and say how he plans to implement it so that the people are well informed when they go to the polls.

4. The aspiring president should ensure at least a standard of living and proper housing for all strata of people and create conditions that enable them to earn their livelihood and acquire free education.

5. The economic and living conditions of the people should be attended to, the problem of hoarders and black marketeers should be tackled, and prices should be controlled and reined in. Formulating an import-export policy is also one of the important responsibilities of the government.

The economic problems of the people cannot be solved by adopting the policy of economic adjustment. Social and economic justice are the sole means for resolving society's problems.

6. Finally, the precise implementation of the Constitution, all rules and approved regulations that have been ratified by the Guardians Council, including the laws governing political parties, elections to the national Councils, labor laws, expanding of agricultural, industrial, and production cooperatives, are included in the corpus of the duties of the president and the government.

Has President Hashemi-Rafsanjani carried out all these duties? Does he have a definite plan, or does he only have a program for economic problems? [passage omitted]

Yazdi First Friday Sermon Views Rights of Women

LD1106163593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1021 GMT 11 Jun 93

[First Friday sermon by Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, head of the Judiciary Branch, in Tehran on 11 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful [Koranic passage omitted] In this sermon I wish to raise an issue on the rights of women. Some of these rights have been discussed before.

Today I wish to discuss their right to work. In view of some instances of disagreement between husbands and wives on this point I wish to explain the matter further. The right to work is a fully natural right for any human being. The women, the same as men, are allowed to have a job and earn a living and what they earn belongs to themselves. [passage omitted]

At the time of signing the marriage contract, the husband and wife might set conditions. For instances, the woman might ask in the contract that she should be permitted to continue her studies after the marriage and enter a university. She might wish to study until she obtains her doctorate degree and then might wish to continue even further and teach in a university or have any other proper job. There would be no problem when such an agreement is reached and signed in the marriage contract.

There are other jobs women might wish to undertake. One of them is to remain a housewife. At the same time she might undertake research work at home and allocate seven or eight hours of her time to this work, which might be a scientific or technical research work. [passage omitted]

As long as the wife's work does not interfere with the obligations of looking after her husband, she is entitled to her free time. Some men should not think that such obligations mean sweeping the floor, cooking, washing, ironing, etc. These tasks have nothing to do with obligations to a husband. The issue is something else that I might raise on another occasion.

If she owns the house they are living, she can even organize private teaching classes such as sewing lessons and embroidery. The reason I mention organizing classes, is that it involves comings and goings. That is, strangers register to enter these classes. The husband cannot say: I am unhappy with these comings and goings. Well, you do not own the house to be happy or not. Whereas if the husband is the owner of the house, the wife's right to work cannot violate the husband's right of ownership. He might ban her from holding classes in his house. They, however, might reach an agreement on the issue.

Unfortunately, a large group of our women stay at home without doing the sort of jobs I mentioned above. They would rather sit around with other women and talk. Or they prefer to arrange house visits with other ladies or cousins. Sometimes they pretend such parties are of religious nature. Whereas most of such parties are arranged to show off their status or their latest fashion of dress, etc. I regret to say this is not a good thing to do.

My suggestion is that women at home should not waste their extra time, but reserve value and respect for it. If they are literate, then they should strive to raise the level of their knowledge; if they are interested in arts, then they should indulge in artistic work, as I have mentioned before, for instance the simplest of them which is carpet weaving. In our country you see some ladies who are doing some really heavy work. In the northern parts of our country, a great proportion of agricultural tasks are carried out normally by ladies. [passage omitted].

But for ladies living in towns, such a culture does not exist; that is a culture saying that time should not be wasted and should be used fully. This is unfortunate. What I just said concerned work within the house, of course if it does not interfere with the rights of the husband and with his rights in connection with the ownership of the house. That is to say there should be harmony and understanding.

In relation to work outside the home: well we know that there are various types of that kind of work. If I want to put it in the legal terminology then I should say that there are works which are covered by the labor law as against those which are covered by the state employment law. For instance working in factories, such as textile, clothing, and sometimes light technical and industrial works in electronics and assembly works for example—we have seen for ourselves that some of the above-mentioned jobs are carried out by ladies—are covered by the labor law; that is to say that the government's supervision over these works is done through the labor law. Another type of work outside home is the one covered by the state employment law. For instance working in ministries, organizations and offices. [passage omitted]

In all types of employment for women, there are two provisions. Either the husband should have given his agreement when the original marriage documents were being prepared, or after the marriage the women should have attained their husbands' permission, consent and agreement. If the husband does not agree, and if no

provisions have been made within the marriage documents, then the woman naturally cannot say for instance I am a medical doctor and want to work a few hours in the hospital. The husband may say: No! I do not want you to. When there is no previous agreement or contract involved, then here we have a case of a contrast, in which the rights of the husband naturally come first. But the woman can still have work at home that does not interfere with the rights of the husband. This is the general basis of work for ladies.

My time is short, and the weather is very hot, so I must summarize my remarks, as I also have a few points to discuss in my second sermon. I would like to say a few sentences about statistics concerning the present situation of women in our country. Then I will make certain conclusions before ending this debate.

You know that according to the last census, the population of our country was 58 million. If you take the growth during the last year or two into account, then it is about 60 million at present. Forty- nine percent of this population is made by women, that is about 28.5 million. Approximately 4,448,000 people out of the total population, is made up of females under the age of five. Normally this age group is not taken into account when compiling figures on employment. Out of the total of about 17 million [school] students covered by the Education Ministry 6,100,000 are girls. In higher eduction, out of about 240,000 students, 58,000 are women. In relation to employment, first I must mention the overall figures. In the country as a whole, we have 8,216,000 people who are either employed in production units [as heard]—and therefore covered by the labor law—or in the private sector, and thus covered by the state employment law. Out of this total, 1,413,000 are women. [passage omitted]

It might be a good idea if I give details on some points, for example on the conditions of government employees working under the state employment regulation. Of the 1.32 million government employees 506,000 are women. In factories in general of 2,954 million employees 322,000 are women. In other units, of the 3.42 million 240,000 are women. According to the Labor Ministry there are all together 1.413 million job opportunities for women. In other words in our country the above figure is the available jobs for ladies. You can also see in practice that in our country today women hold the highest posts: they are representatives in the Majles, they are active, they are advisers to the president, they are representatives of the judiciary. [passage omitted on the change in the administration of the judiciary and the abolition of women-held advisory posts]

At the end of the talk let me tell the dear and honorable ladies of this Islamic country, directly and clearly. There has been great injustice against you in the past and there were times when they would not even consider you human. Today in a world that claims civilization, progress, freedom and human rights, I believe they are committing the greatest injustice against you, under the pretext of equal rights. I have personally witnessed a women working like a man in the street pulling an asphalt roller. Like a simple laborer, she has to put a cement bucket on her head or shoulder and take it up the ladder. I saw it myself. In a communist state, women work like that and do other heavy jobs. And they say there is no difference between men and women. In other places women are instruments of pleasure, enjoyment, advertising, sale of goods, making pretty exhibitions and creating attractions. Muslim women should know that dear Islam has done you the greatest service and the Islamic system in Iran has created the highest opportunity for you. In this historic juncture it is up to you to show capabilities and worthiness. [public chants in approval]

Well, we have four million [females] under five years, over a million in employment, six million studying; and 500,000 also in higher education and elsewhere. What do the rest of the ladies do in this state?

I am told: You defend the ladies from this holy podium! Let me state this reality; as I told you at the beginning. Why do the ladies, who are outside the categories I mentioned, waste their time? Why do they spend time on futile, frivolous and banal get- togethers? Why do they create unnecessary and futile expense for their spouses and believe that their aggrandizement [tashakhkhos] lies in possessing such and such color dress, such and such model shoes, and such and such so-called appearance? Muslim lady! If you may wear simple clothes, but when you talk in a gathering, your remarks demonstrate that you have an understanding of Islam, are aware of Islam, of your government, of your world, then you will be respected by all, even if you do not wear merely a gold ring on your finger. And the lady who thinks that, for example, if she covers her hands with gold, covers her chest with gold, covers her ears with gold, but when she speaks, her words are the same banal statements which are of no value [pauses].... This is not the personality of a Muslim woman.

A Muslim woman must really make the most of the opportunity that the Islamic Republic has brought about. We hope that, God willing, all our women, while enjoying the religious and legal rights that have been given to them, try to, God willing, make good use of such Islamic privileges.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

Yazdi Delivers Second Friday Prayer Sermon

LD1106152093 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1102 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Second Friday prayer sermon delivered by Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, head of the judiciary branch, in Tehran on 11 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Four years have passed since the death of the great imam. Esteemed sons of the imam, particularly the great leader [Khamene'i], that lofty son of the imam, have taken on the grave responsibility of holding the general reins of the country. Despite all the

adverse propaganda, which the enemies have taken every opportunity to resort to, you see that the people's enthusiasm has not ebbed but has risen. [passage omitted]

Those who sit at home in great comfort and indulge in analysis and are sometimes influenced by easterners, westerners, or Europeans who cannot rule themselves properly yet, but say certain things about Islam and Islamic rule, and certain people sit here and there and analyze these remarks—I say if you wish to arrive at the truth come out of your homes, stop watching television, put the newspapers down, come among the masses of the people and hear what the people say and see what they like. What do they express their love for, but for Islam, the Koran, the rule of religion, the imam, the leader, Islamic sanctities. [passage omitted]

You, certain poison pens, should reconsider your remarks.

In my opinion we must indeed thank this noble and dear nation—both the citizens of Tehran, and people from all over the country—who participated in the anniversary of the imam's demise. We must tell the world that it is this relationship which is the measure of the government stability and structure. This relationship cannot easily be taken away from the people. Of course, the enemy, too, has observed this. It has become aware of it. It has learned that this relationship is its basis and thrust. Thus, it seeks to somehow break this tie. To sever it. Cultural onslaught does not mean any more than the fact that the enemy wants to break and diminish this tie. But, as the eminent leader has graciously said, the values of the revolution and Islam in our society—which established and kept up the revolution, and which shouldered eight years of sacred defense—continue to exist today and are more apparent and outstanding. [crowd chants]

Today, too, is one of this country's destiny-making days. It is one of those days on which our people will determine the fate of the country through their presence at the ballot boxes throughout the country and through a perfect election and voting for a person who will take the executive responsibility of this country in all its extensive scale. The world will see that all the propaganda, all the rhetoric and discussions— and even groups and individuals around the country have sometimes said or written things...[changes thought] They will see that these people's political understanding and social awareness, and insight about the developments in the world and their country, are at a level at which they will never mix trivial and personal matters with vital and general issues. If by chance differences of opinion exist—well, even in the Majles the deputies have different opinions; they debate, speak, listen, and then cast their votes. Therefore, the fact that there is this and that difference is no reason. This is about the country's vital issues, such as the election of the president.

There is no issue more vital than this: The election of the country's second personality. The election of a person on whose shoulders all responsibilities, especially in light of the constitution after its amendment, have been placed. Hence its transformation from a state of two executive powers into one. [reference to abolition of post of prime minister] There is no responsibility higher than this. Is the election of an individual to such a great responsibility, as the world is witness to, not the best testimony to the freedom, democracy, respect for principles, and our people's awareness of the developments in the world? I am confident that there is not one among our people who meets all conditions for voting but refrains from doing so for the sake of probably some trivial issues. He will participate in the principle of voting but of course he will elect the person of his choice.

The final issue—there are also other issues, but I will finish it here. Despite all the issues which we have all already heard, and which have shown and continue to show the people's insight and understanding of the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy, the Saudi officials have, unfortunately under the influence of the schemes of global arrogance, once again returned to past issues, and have deferred the matter for a while [sentence as heard]. In other words, that is how the enemies of Islam have always believed and continue to believe that by creating discord, by creating a rift, by creating a gap among the Muslims, by cutting Islamic countries and Muslims into pieces, and in the words of his eminence the imam, may he be admitted to God's paradise, in one of his early revolution speeches, delegated each piece to a bully [pauses].... These are the policies they have used and continue to use, lest the enemies close rank a little, and establish small links with one another. The enemy will be defeated by virtue of contacts, by virtue of fraternity, unity, and proximity. Wherever they see that rational and wise policies are leading toward a path which brings Muslims a little closer to one another enabling them to resolve their own problems, the enemy exploits an issue, and somehow renews the gap.

The sentence that I want to say here is that, being under the influence of the global arrogance, spearheaded by America, is not only in no one's interest, but has not been, is not, and will indeed never be in the interest of the Saudi Government authorities. [crowd chants] [passage omitted]

Attacks on Iraqi Border Areas Reported

NC1306080793 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The clerical regime continues to shell border areas in Iraqi Kurdistan with canons and mortars. Reports indicate that from 1000 to 1500 on Wednesday 9 June, the regime's forces shelled with their long-range artillery the (Bama) heights, the (Qeslan) plain, and villages in the area, all of which are situated in the Darbandikhan district.

Also, a report received from the party committee in Sardasht notes that on 8 June the regime's antipopular forces stationed in (Sarneygan) base near the village of (Donatu) shelled the area with their heavy artillery and inflicted heavy financial damage on the people. On the same day, the regime's antipopular forces fired at a

number of (?peddlers) who were passing through the region. No precise information is available on the fate of these people.

Protest to Croatian Ambassador Over Diplomat's Death

LD1206210293 Tehran IRNA in English 1513 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 12, IRNA—The Foreign Ministry on Saturday summoned the Croatian ambassador and informed him of Iran's "deep dissatisfaction" with the killing last Thursday of an Iranian diplomat by Croatian militiamen.

The Zagreb based Iranian diplomat Majid Montazeri was gunned down by Croat forces in the village of Catici while escorting a convoy of Iranian relief aid.

The Foreign Ministry's director general for Central and Northern Europe told the Croatian ambassador that Zagreb should punish the person or persons responsible for the crime and should do its best to prevent the recurrence of such events.

The ambassador said although the incident had occurred outside the jurisdiction of the Croatian Government, but his government would do its best in this regard.

The ambassador, who recently submitted his credentials to President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, also expressed reget over the incident.

Ministry Urges Military Aid for Bosnia-Herzegovina

LD1506095593 Tehran IRNA in English 0852 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—The Foreign Ministry in a statement here Tuesday called on international bodies to collectively defend Bosnia-Herzegovina and its defenceless people or issue immediate authorization for supply of arms to them. "Under conditions that senior representatives of many world countries have gathered in Vienna to exchange views on human rights, fresh horrible crimes were committed by the Serbs against the oppressed people of Bosnia-Herzegovina," the statement said, adding that the crimes were not unexpected but unprecedented and a gross violation of human rights.

It referred to the "savage and tragic" shelling of Gorazde hospital with all its medical cadre, personnel and patients, nearly a month after the U.N. Security Council issued resolutions declaring the area a "safe haven" and termed the shelling "a renewed warning to all the world and the human rights advocates, the international organizations in particular, that how a U.N. member state is besieged and invaded without having the right to defend itself due to an arms embargo, and how its defenceless and shelterless people are faced with the danger of being fully extincted." It further regretted that "no effective measures are taken to end these aggressions."

Noting that an Iranian aid worker had been martyred last week while distributing relief aid among the oppressed people of Bosnian- Herzegovina, the statement said: "The Islamic Republic of Iran severely condemns the Serbian attacks and expresses its deep hatred of the dreadful crime of attacking Gorazde hospital, and persistently urges the international bodies and community to either collectively defend B-H [Bosnia-Herzegovina] and its defenceless citizens through employment of legal measures stipulated in the international law or authorize, without delay, supply of military aid to the oppressed people of B-H for defending themselves."

Majles Speaker Views Relations With U.S.

LD1206111393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] This morning Majles Speaker Nateq-Nuri held a news conference with Iranian and foreign reporters and replied to their questions in various fields.

In this news conference, the Majles speaker paid tribute to the extensive and active presence of the vigilant people of our country in the sixth presidential election. He considered that presence as an indication of our people's interest and sensibility toward determining their own destiny, and also toward the continual presence of the revolution on the political scene.

The head of the legislature referred to the sensitive conditions [as heard] and to the importance of future planning for the purpose of managing the country's affairs. He said: At present, because of interference by the major powers, the world is suffering from political insecurity and instability. Under such circumstances, those who run the country must act with awareness and insight.

In reply to a question posed by a BBC correspondent, on Iran's reaction to America's new attempts to bring more pressure upon Iran, Nateq-Nuri said: The issue of economic sanctions against Iran is nothing new. Since the victory of the Islamic revolution, this ploy has been used against us by America and its allies. However, such moves will not deter us from undertaking correct moves on the political scene and from the reconstruction of the country. As has been proven, such moves do not cause any problem for a powerful country such as Iran, which enjoys the good conditions and resources bestowed on us by God. He added: t is not beneficial to America and its allies to set out on such endeavors, because such things have no effect on the revolution's momentum, and we will show an appropriate reaction to any action.

In reply to a question posed by one of the reporters, the Majles speaker said there are no contradictions in Iran's foreign policy. He stressed that it is the countries of the region with all their common Islamic heritage that must safeguard the region's security. He added: If some countries experience contradictions in their relations with us, this is caused by the interventions of the arrogant powers. He added: What the Islamic Republic places emphasis on

is peaceful coexistence with the regional countries. Such a thing can be a great force in the face of the common enemies.

Referring to the position of the Majles in relation to the future government, the Majles speaker said: It is natural that the Majles will be reserving its legal rights in that field. I predict that we will not have any problems with the next government either, and the necessary coordination will be undertaken.

On the issue of future relations between Iran and America, the legislative power's chief said: We broke off relations with America on the basis of the principles and values of the Islamic revolution, as well the will of our nation. While America maintains its hegemonist nature, our relations with that country will remain severed.

Nateq-Nuri decsribed the drawing-up of the second development plan as the most important task of the future government. He stressed the necessity of supporting policies to encourage production and domestic industries, so as to attain economic independence.

'Hostile Policies' Toward Satellite TV Viewed

NC1006162793 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 26 May 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Challenge of Sat-TV"]

[Excerpts] In his inaugural address Monday to the gathering of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD), the director of Iran's national television referred to the multi-faceted dislocations, mostly cultural, that Third World countries are likely to face as a result of satellite television invasion. He proposed some possible ways of combating this challenge. [passage omitted]

Because of the enormous prospect for gains, the Western world, particularly the U.S., is very excited about the new and growing Sat-TV phenomenon. Besides being a formidable trade tool, it is an instrument of cultural and political domination. Inevitably viewers in the Asian countries will be bombarded with new and exotic Western values, bringing under question national and regional cultural values, confronting these countries with a host of new and imported problems to reckon with. Thus for all Third World countries Sat-TV has become a problem, and how to confront it, a challenge. [passage omitted]

But the way to confront satellite TV is not through hostile policies, because the more hostility against it, the more miserable would be the failure. Some rigid-minded Third World governments might be tempted to resort to coercive measures against satellite-TV. Such measures, as has always been the case in the past, will serve to make viewers more avaricious, less selective, and turning them into TV junkies at best.

The way to confront the impact of Sat-TV is to take a renewed look at the institution of television; an institution as important as school. Television will have to be taken more seriously, and more resources and attention should be allocated to create programs that are both entertaining and educational. These locally produced programs, along with those selectively imported, would attract viewers away from foreign satellite television channels to local and national stations. In this way, cultural values would be both reinforced and inculcated, hopefully making the viewer intellectually equipped to face the challenge of foreign cultural invasion.

Commentary Views Need for Damascus Declaration

LD1406123393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1010 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] After two days of talks, the foreign ministers of the member countries of the Damascus Declaration, or what is called two plus six, ended their meeting. At the end of the meeting, these countries issued a statement clarifying their stances on regional issues.

The aim of that meeting was to find a way of salvaging the Declaration, but the only decision adopted in this regard was the formation of a committee for research into methods for its implementation. The meeting appointed a committee to carry out necessary reviews and then issue an order for the implementation of the Damascus Declaration.

The Damascus Declaration was signed three years ago by the six members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council [PGCC] and by Egypt and Syria, and gave the impression that it was a basis for new unity in the region and among the Arab countries. This Declaration was aimed at creating new arrangements for security in the region. The need for new regional arrangements, an issue which surfaced after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the start of the oil war in the Persian Gulf, forced these countries to take such an initiative.

Of course, the discrepancy between the two plus six plan and the realities of the region resulted in the Damascus Declaration lacking a pretext for implementation, so much so that the member countries, concerned about the possibility of the Declaration failing, considered it essential to make certain endeavors to salvage it. Before the recent meeting, the member countries of the Damascus Declaration, seeking a better way of reaching an agreement, eliminated the issue of forming a joint Arab force from their agenda, and considered issues pertaining to defense ties as something which should be dealt with in the framework of one-to-one relations.

The committee to find a way of salvaging the two plus six union was formed when the meeting had put aside the raison d'etre of the union, that is finding collective regional arrangements for attaining stability and security. Such a union cannot be going anywhere.

The idea of the two plus six union is based on the presence of a threat in the region. The foundations for this union

were laid amid the tense and threatening atmosphere of the second Persian Gulf war, and it is only by blowing the threats out of proportion that the union can continue its existence. The meeting's final declaration also emphasized, more than anything else, the presence of threats, but many of these are mere illusions. Thus, a significant part of their declaration constitutes support for Kuwait against Iraq, and at the same time support for the stances of the United Arab Emirates against Iran, despite of the fact the unstable post-oil-war atmosphere is no longer present—even though Iraq has been opposing the decisions of the Iraq-Kuwait border commission. Iran, however, has been emphasizing cooperation among countries of the region so as to achieve stability.

In his recent trip to the Persian Gulf littoral states, Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati proved such a stance. He called for ever greater cooperation among the regional countries so as to bring about regional security and stability. The stances adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry, announced after the two plus six meeting, once again emphasized such cooperation.

What is certain is that the security of the region depends on cooperation among the countries of the region. With an atmosphere of cooperation, the union, which was founded amid threats, has no need to exist, even though its members may try to salvage it by exaggerating threats.

Tehran: Implementation of 6 Plus 2 'Impossible'

NC1306072693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Commentary from the "In the Margin of the News" feature prepared by the News Commentaries Group]

[Text] The foreign ministers of eight Arab countries known as the Six Plus Two pact are meeting in Abu Dhabi to discuss regional developments and their impact on relations. This group, which comprises the six members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman—and the two countries of Egypt and Syria, is concentrating its talks on ways to implement the Damascus Declaration in an effort to save this declaration, which was signed about two years ago but which has never been implemented.

At the opening of the Abu Dhabi session, the foreign ministers of the participating countries said that the lack of success of the Damascus Declaration and the downfall of the Two Plus Six pact are a heavy blow to them and that they will try to save the Declaration by achieving a consensus on its implementation.

The Damascus Declaration, which was signed after the oil war in the Persian Gulf in March 1991, was an attempt by the southern Persian Gulf littoral states plus Egypt and Syria to establish a new security system in the Persian Gulf. This declaration divided duties among the Persian Gulf's oil-rich states and Egypt and Syria. In other words, countries with oil resources would take on the financial responsibility needed by the security plan, while Syria and Egypt would provide the necessary manpower. This division of duties stemmed from the fact that the oil-rich countries had the necessary capital but lacked the necessary manpower. Syria and Egypt expected assistance by the oil- rich Arab countries and were able to provide the necessary manpower for the implementation of this plan. Meanwhile, Egypt—which has only recently come on the scene after years of isolation in the Arab world—considers this plan a way to expand its influence in the region.

Although the Damascus Declaration was signed amid great fanfare, the inability of the signatories to implement it became very obvious when the member countries were unable to reach an agreement on security and manpower that was to include sending Egyptian and Syrian forces to the GCC members. Now too, this difference is so great that the member countries have tried to set this topic aside in the Abu Dhabi conference and to put the plan for the formation of a common Arab force in abeyance. And in order to make an agreement possible, they have underlined the need for joint cooperation among the members.

As for meeting the necessary costs, the rich Arab countries have been less generous in assisting poorer countries than they were in the past, especially since they are concerned that the entry of these countries into the pact will compel them to extend more assistance within the framework of the commitments under the union. And this prevents them from accepting new commitments.

But the most important reason for the inability of the members of the Six Plus Two pact to implement the Damascus Declaration should be sought in the fact that this plan does not conform to regional realities. The GCC members have tried to make arrangements for ensuring regional security by bringing in two countries that are outside the region. But in view of the repercussions, this only makes regional problems more difficult. The presence of countries that are outside the region and the absence of some regional countries in arrangements envisaged for the region only result in limiting the possibility of addressing regional interests. And this can not only make an agreement difficult, but impossible.

U.S. Involvement in Somalia, Problems Viewed

LD1306132193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1005 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Air and ground attacks by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force against General Mohammad Farah Aydid's positions deep within Somali territory demonstrate that, despite the passing of six months from the beginning of operations by the multinational forces within Somali territory, those forces are still facing considerable obstacles and problems in that country.

At the beginning of the current year [starting 21 March 1993] the UN Security Council, through adopting Resolution 814, allowed the command of the forces deployed in Somalia to be transferred to the United Nations. This transfer took place when it was imagined that by several rounds of talks between the two main fighting factions in Somalia—that is 'Ali Mahdi Mohammad, the interim president, and Mohammad Farah Aidid, carried out in the U.S. Embassy—existing disputes have ended. Gradually it became clear that the disputes in Somalia are too deep to allow the return of true peace to that famine-stricken country through hasty negotiations, and without any guarantee for implementation of the agreements reached in negotiations.

The occurrence of disputes between the Somali groups taking part in the Addis Ababa conference can be added to the aforementioned instance. This is because a plan that the 14 groups participating in the conference were supposed to agree to implement faced serious opposition by some Somali factions.

Under such circumstances, Resolution 814 gave more authority to the operating forces in Somalia since, according to the resolution, the UN blue helmets were allowed to use force to realize their objectives, and, implicitly [as heard, vernacular: betor-e zemni], disarm the armed groups.

It was natural for the implementation of Resolution 814 to face some resistance because of the unresolved disputes among Somali groups. Thus the clash between the UN blue helmets and Aidid's forces should be assessed against this background.

The Aidid faction claims that foreign forces deployed in Somalia are endeavoring, along with the United States, to gradually eliminate him from the state political arena through disarming forces that support him, and at the same time consolidate the shaky foundations of the government of 'Ali Mohammad, who enjoys less support. The intransigence of the Aidid faction, therefore, stems from that, taking into consideration that the Aidid faction enjoys considerably large and mainly armed supporters.

But at the moment, the new U.S. role in Somali internal affairs is considered to be important in political circles. The United States has transferred the command of the multinational force deployed in Somalia to the United Nations in order to achieve several objectives.

First, through this strategy, Washington intends to take on an implicit [as heard], behind the scenes role in Somalia without being accused of interfering in the internal affairs of that state by holding command of the operation. Second, by reducing its forces it can minimize its human losses and financial expenditure for participating in Somali operations; at the same time realize its objectives in implementing regional security plans through the influence and position it acquires in the new command organization of the multinational forces. Third, in case of any incident that threatens interference objectives in Somalia, the United States itself swiftly enters the action and thus engages in a clear show of force.

For the realization of this purpose, Washington, despite transferring the multinational command to the United Nations, retained 5,000 of its forces in Somalia and deployed more on that country's coastline.

In fact recent incidents in Somalia must be considered as the execution of the aforementioned scenario; a scenario that will continue as before. International interference, which at the beginning was presented as supplying foodstuff to hungry Somalis, has long ended up as the main factor in rounding up heavy arms and the disarmament of that country's paramilitary and, finally, an endeavor for the implementation of a peace plan under the UN umbrella.

The developments of recent years in Somalia have demonstrated that the establishment of any kind of peace and stability in that country—that is formed from various tribes—is conditional on finding a mechanism for the participation of all factions in administering that state. Therefore, a system that enjoys internal support and legitimacy is the one that can take power. It is obvious that the establishment of the organs of government on the basis of dependence beyond the borders cannot bring peace and stability to Somalia.

Topics of Warren Christopher's Visit To Turkey Viewed

LD1306154593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1011 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in Ankara, the Turkish capital, yesterday to meet and confer with that country's leaders. During this visit, he will be conducting talks with the Turkish President Soleyman Demirel and Turkish Prime Minister Erdal Inonu.

The U.S. secretary of state's visit is the first by a high-ranking U.S. official to Turkey after U.S. Democrat President Bill Clinton's election, and for this reason is very significant in delineating U.S.-Turkish relations in the mold of the new circumstances [as heard].

Christopher has announced his goal in visiting Ankara to be the expansion of economic and military relations between the United States and Turkey. As an Eastern-flank member of NATO and the United States' traditional ally in the region, Turkey has a crucial role in U.S. foreign policy. This role has assumed greater importance especially after the developments that ended in the attack by the United States and its allies against Iraq and the historical developments resulting in the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

On arriving in Ankara, the U.S. secretary of state declared that his talks with Turkish statesmen will include economic and military relations between the two countries, the Bosnia-Herzegovina conflict, and the campaign against terrorism and human rights. But observers believe what constitutes the main axis of Christopher's talks with Turkish leaders includes two very important issues, that is, the situation of the Kurds and the Caucasian conflict to which not much reference has been made in official reports.

Regarding the Kurdish issue, it is said that the U.S. Administration wishes to be informed about the results of the tripartite negotiations on Kurds between Iran, Syria, and Turkey. Christopher has said that the United States praises Turkish efforts in assisting Iraqi Kurds despite Ankara's concerns over separatist Kurds in Turkish border areas. What is strange is that Turkey shows itself to be a supporter of the Kurds when, internally, it embarks on severe suppression of the Kurds.

But perhaps one of the most important issues on the agenda of Christopher's talks with the Turkish Government officials may be the Caucasia and Central Asia issues. It is clear that after the disintegration of the Soviet Union a greater part of Turkey's efforts in foreign policy has been directed toward this region. Over the last two years almost all Turkey's efforts for extending its influence in the Caucasian and Central Asian areas have been accompanied with the implicit support of the Western states, especially the United States. But that support, in view of the internal contradictions of that policy, has always ended in disappointing results.

In fact the direct and unconditional support given by the United States and major European states to Armenia—that does not have such good relations with Turkey—has prevented the Turkish Government from promoting its foreign policy in the Caucasian region in a desirable fashion.

Nevertheless recently the three countries, the United States, Russia, and Turkey, put forward a peace plan for the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict that has not brought about any tangible results yet. One of the matters in the talks relates to the promotion of that plan. There have been no reports yet on details regarding any new agreements. In fact Turkish foreign policy regarding Caucasia and Central Asia coordinates to a great extent with the interests of the major powers, especially the United States. But Turkey has never been able to overcome the important contradictions that also exist in this regard. It seems that with the U.S. Democrat administration's intention on seeking more extensive intervention in various areas of the world becoming clearer, the Turkish Government's maneuverability in those areas [Caucasia and Central Asia] will face greater challenges; although Turkish statesmen hope to be given a new role in this regard.

Pakistan

'Displeasure' Expressed Over Reports on Mogadishu

BK1506064393 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0600 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Pakistan has expressed displeasure over the exaggerated and biased reports disseminated by news agencies about the recent incidents involving the UN forces in the Somali capital of Mogadishu. A Foreign Office statement, referring to the incidents that took place on Sunday [13 Jun], says that the armed Somalis had attacked a UN post, which has been confirmed by the UN investigation report. The statement regrets that certain international newspapers incautiously called UN troops Pakistani and leveled allegations against them without verifying the facts.

Television Reports Main Features of 1993-94 Budget

BK1406150093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1415 GMT 14 Jun 93

[All figures as heard]

[Text] The federal budget for 1993-94 was presented in the National Assembly this evening. The federal minister for finance, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, presented the budget.

The budget envisaging a total outlay of over 332.5 billion rupees is nine percent higher than 1992-93. The budget fixed the target of 7.5 percent increase in the Gross Domestic Product during 1993-94.

In the budget, the size of public sector development program has been fixed at about 75 billion rupees. The finance minister said the thrust of the allocation is on the development side while generating self-employment opportunities, expansion of exports and increase in power generation.

In his budget speech, the federal finance minister announced a number of measures being adopted to facilitate the common man. He also announced a number of concessions allowed on the import of machinery and goods that will help accelerate the pace of development in the country.

Gross revenue receipts for the next fiscal year are estimated to be more than 267 billion rupees. Out of this amount, 71.9 billion rupees will be paid to the provinces as their share in taxes. Thus, the net federal revenue will be over 195 billion rupees. Net capital receipts will amount to 39.8 billion rupees. External resources would yield 60 billion rupees, while three billion rupees will be available from our own resources for the financing of the public sector development program.

Total resources for the budget are estimated to be more than 298 billion rupees, whereas the total expenditure, including the development expenditure, is estimated at

more than 332 billion rupees. There will be a resource gap of more than 34.5 billion rupees, which will be covered through various measures.

For the next fiscal year, a development program of more than 74.7 billion rupees has been chalked out for the public sector. It includes 21.8 billion rupees for the provincial development programs. Development allocation for the Punjab amounts to more than 9.37 billion rupees, Sindh 6.41 billion rupees, the NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] 2.94 billion rupees, and Balochistan over 3.07 billion rupees, whereas development program of the federal government is estimated to be more than 52.95 billion rupees.

Transport and communications sector gets top priority in the development program with an allocation of more than 17.06 billion rupees, showing an increase of nearly 27 percent over the current year. Development program in the energy sector has an allocation of 12.06 billion rupees. One point six-two billion rupees has been earmarked for the fuel sector and 1.01 billion rupees for fiscal planning and housing which shows an increase of 81 percent as compared to the current year.

Various sectoral allocations include over 852 million rupees for population and welfare, 567 million rupees for rural development, 445 million rupees for health projects, 425 million rupees for education, 138 million rupees for science and technology, 297 million rupees for culture, sports and tourism, 269 million rupees for manpower, 85 million rupees for women development, 60 million rupees for social welfare and more than 53 million rupees for environment. Over 2.91 billion rupees have been earmarked for Tamir-i-Watan [National Construction] Program and 1.5 billion rupees Tamir-i-Sindh- [Sindh Construction] Program, whereas more than 2.05 billion rupees will be spent on special development programs in Azad Kashmir, Northern Areas and Federally Administered Tribal Areas. Eight point eight billion rupees have been set aside for social action programs in the provinces. Social action programs have been designed to improve social services in priority areas such as primary education, nutrition, health, population welfare, rural water supply and sanitation. To improve the coverage, quality and effectiveness of services delivery in these areas, an implementation strategy has been adopted.

In Islamabad, a meeting of the Federal Cabinet was held under the chairmanship of the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, at the Prime Minister's Secretariat today. The Cabinet discussed and approved federal budget 1993-94 for presenting in the National Assembly. Federal Ministers and ministers of state attended the meeting.

Sharif on Need To Reduce Deficit

BK1406155593 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Talking to newsmen at the Parliament House after presentation of the budget, Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said that it was imperative to find new resources in order to reduce the fiscal deficit. However, while striving to realize this objective, we have tried our best to ensure that the common people bear the smallest burden. The prime minister said it is very difficult to control the nondevelopmental expenditures until the question of collection of interests on loans is resolved. We will have considerable resources for accelerating the pace of development in the country when we are able to control this situation. Reviewing the unfavorable consequences of dissolution of the National Assembly, he said that it will be our wholehearted endeavor to ensure in future that a good political atmosphere prevails in the country. He expressed his happiness that the budget was presented in a very cordial atmosphere today. In reply to a question on the implementation of [words indistinct] the prime minister said that a commission has been set up in this regard which is examining the whole matter. Appropriate steps may be taken in light of the report of this commission, he added.

Editorial Rejects U.S. Call To End Nuclear Program

BK1106111393 Rawalpindi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 7 Jun 93 p 13

[Editorial: "Pakistan's Nuclear Program—U.S. Pressure—the Need for Realism"]

[Text] John Malott, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, who has returned to Washington after completing his tour of India and Pakistan, has said that if Pakistan does not abandon its nuclear program it will be difficult to terminate the Pressler Amendment. It is not possible to alter (?the U.S. prejudices) against Pakistan's nuclear program. Pakistan has unnecessarily been discriminated against and victimized in this regard, even though India's nuclear program in this region is not hidden from the world. Even countries like Israel, South Africa, Mexico, and Brazil are well advanced in this field, but the United States has no objection to their programs. Pakistan is being punished only because it is a Muslim country.

Pakistan has always argued that it faces a threat from India's aggressive designs. Without nuclear weapons, Pakistan is incapable of meeting the threat posed by India's conventional forces. It would therefore be suicidal for Pakistan to abandon its nuclear option under these circumstances. The U.S. is, however, pressuring Pakistan to give up its nuclear program and destroy its capability; and if Pakistan does this, the United States may agree to terminate application of the Pressler Amendment and resume economic and military aid to Pakistan. But, it is not possible for Pakistan to put its independence, sovereignty, and security at stake. Unless and until a regional solution to the nuclear issue is found, Pakistan will be unable to accept U.S. conditions. Pakistan has forwarded a proposal at the United Nations platform every year to keep the Indian Ocean and South Asia free of nuclear weapons. Even Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has proposed a five-nation conference, a proposal appreciated by the United States.

Therefore, instead of imposing a unilateral decision, the United States should bring India to the negotiating table [words indistinct]. Pakistan will also be ready to accept it for the sake of global peace and regional security.

It would be better if Washington got the Kashmir issue resolved in accordance with the UN resolutions. Resolution of the Kashmir dispute would lessen the extent of India's threat to Pakistan, and Pakistan could then use its resources to implement national development schemes. This would be in keeping with the U.S. demand for Pakistan to slash its defense budget and pay more attention to its people's welfare.

'Mutually Acceptable' Nuclear Stance With India Urged

BK1206133593 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 12 Jun 93 p 10

[Editorial: "Resolving the Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] As a response to the international pressures Pakistan is primary facing on the nuclear issue, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has spelled out his domestic political constraints by saying that no Pakistani government can roll back the country's nuclear programme and survive. There is no doubt that such a unilateral initiative would spell political suicide for any Pakistani leaders, besides being inconsisistent with its valid defence requirements. As matters stand, India has the capability of producing more than a hundred bombs while Pakistan can put together about a dozen. Given the vast superiority of India's conventional forces, Pakistan considers a nuclear deterrent necesary against aggression from India. Yet in the interest of peace, Pakistan stands internationally committed to the concept of a nuclear-free South Asia, if India complies. It has repeatedly called for internationally-sponsored multilateral talks, so that the two neighbours can find a mutually acceptable formula to move towards that goal —a proposal that the Indian government is not prepared to consider.

There can be no denying the fact that a nuclear race in the subcontinent will be economically crippling for both Pakistan and India. Already, the vast resources diverted towards defence have served to compound internal problem of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and the like. The religious extremism and political instability, which the resultant economic malaise had bred, threatens both political systems. There are same voices in both Pakistan and India, who courageously move against the popular current of uncompromising hostility and counsel confidence building measures leading to a mutual cut-back or freeze, in conventional defence forces and in the nuclear field. Most recently, the wisdom of moving from confrontation to cooperation in the subcontinent, was forcefully expreseed by the editor of THE TIMES OF INDIA, Mr Bidwai, in an interview with a Pakistani correspondent. Such voices have to be encouraged by our political leaders if the crucial necessity of detente for economic survival, is to infiltrate the national psyches. In Pakistan, if the government were to subject the nuclear issue to enlightened debate rather than make it a holy cow, a political climate conductive to taking fresh initiatives, without compromising genuine defence requarents, would become possible. Most importantly, it is crucial to educate the populace to the effect that it is our vital national interests which demand a resolution of the nuclear issue, so that perceptions are not limited, as they presently are, by self-defeating reactions to international pressures. On the other hand, if the doves in both countries are to be encouraged, the US will have to develop an even-handed approach when dealing with the nuclear issue in the subcontinent and in this respect approach of the Clinton administration is relatively encouraging. One sided pressure on Pakistan only sarves to build a hostile internal reaction, which helps to increase the popularity of the hawkish view in this country. And it boisters India's rigidity which stands in the way of a compromise.

Nuclear Research Role of Institute Viewed, Praised

BK1206131393 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 12 Jun 93 p 4

[Text] Karachi (PPI)—Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology (PINSTECH), Islamabad has recently established a mobile radiation monitoring laboratory as part of the countrywide emergency preparedness programme, it is learnt.

PINSTECH serves as a national calibration laboratory with secondary standard instruments to assume that personal dosimetry of the [words indistinct] environmental monitoring programme meets international standards for radiation doses.

Some 2000 radiation workers in 300 establishments around the country are availing the personal monitoring service using film dosimeters.

In the coming years the institute would be called upon to play an even greater role in the development of Pakistan's Atomic Energy Programme, and in opening up new areas of research.

Work in several high-tech areas such as fibre optics, computer networking, advanced materials, including ceramics and powder metallurgy, and reactor design has already been envisaged.

Like any other living and vibrant centre, it will evolve and mutate to meet the growing and diverse needs of the nation's peaceful nuclear effort, and in particular to further strengthen its role in the development of technical manpower.

Over the last 25 years of its existence PINSTECH has made notable contributions to the development of the overall scientific and technological infrastructure of the country and in particular to the advancement of nuclear research.

It has played a key role in the implementation of all the major nuclear programmes and projects in the country. It has indeed developed into one of the finest nuclear

research, development and training institutes in the third world. Its laboratories are rated high and used as reference laboratories in certain fields.

It has also rendered technical support to institutes, industries and national organisations in such diverse areas as radioisotope applications, radiation monitoring, [words indistinct] repair and maintenance of electronic instruments and computers.

Provision of special services, particularly to armed forces, include fractography and microanalysis of failures in operating systems and machines.

It was [words indistinct] an ambitious programme to develop radiation cross linked polymats of high quality for use as insulating material in electrical cables.

An important area of work is the production of isotopes for medical uses utilising the nuclear reactors of the institute. Regular production of radioisotopes on large scale was achieved after commissioning of radioisotope production cells provided with remote handling facilities in 1979.

[Word indistinct] such as [words indistinct] Gold-198, Chromium-51 and Phosphorous-32, etc., and their labelled compounds are produced and supplied in various hospitals and medical centres established by the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) all over the country.

There compounds [word indistinct] physical, chemical and biolgical control before they are released for use. To produce certain specific compounds and radiopharmaceuticals in a germ-free atmosphere, a clean laboratory has been set up recently.

Over the years very substantial research and development work has been carried out on Co-80 gamma radiation for producing useful materials from agricultural waste, radiation sterilisation of surgical gloves and vials and the improvment of colour and clarity of precious stones through the radiation and heat-treatment. The experience so [words indistinct] in the establishment of a commercial [word indistinct] plant near Lahore.

The initial batches of yellow cake and well characterised Uranium Dioxide powder for Karachi Nuclear Power Plant fuel were produced at PINSTECH. [Words indistinct] instruments and mass-spectrometers for the measurement of trace elements in hydrological, biological, and geological samples are also developed and fabricated at the institute.

A new control and instrumentation panel with on-line process control for Pakistan Research Reactor (PaRR-i) was locally designed and fabricated.

PINSTECH has also provided facilities to train scientists [words indistinct] in highly technical disciplines of nuclear science and technology. The formal training is imparted at the Centre for Nuclear Studies (CNS) of the institute through short term and long term academic programmes and by arranging specialised courses in various disciplines. The [words indistinct] these are master's degree programmes in nuclear engineering, systems engineering and nuclear medicine. A Ph.D Programme in nuclear engineering has also commenced at the institute.

Sri Lanka

Police Bodyguard Arrested in Premadasa Slaying

BK1206153293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] COLOMBO, June 12 (AFP)—A senior police officer attached to the elite bodyguard of slain Sri Lankan president Ranasinghe Premadasa has been arrested in connection with his assassination, police sources said Saturday.

An Assistant Superintendent who was part of Premadasa's elite bodyguard was detained under tough emergency regulations, first policeman to be arrested over the May 1 bomb attack, the sources said.

"We took him in together with a police driver attached to the PSD (Presidential Security Division). They are being held on detention orders valid for a month," a police spokesman said.

He said both men were taken into custody by the police Criminal Investigations Department (CID) on Thursday and were being interrogated about possible links with the suspected sucide bomber.

The CID has said the bomber provided an unlimited supply of wine and women to Premadasa's valet-cum-masseur M.P.M. Mohideen to gain access to the presidential residence here.

Mohideen, who often slept on the corridor outside Premadasa's bedroom, also died in the blast at a May Day rally along with the president and 21 others.

The bomber was able to get within eight feet (two meters) of the president because of his intimate links with Mohideen, according to the CID.

There were also serious security lapses by Premadasa's bodyguard which comprised 300 policemen, including at least 22 senior officers, the CID has said.

Investigations continue to assertain whether the level of negligence amounted to complicity.

Two of Premadasa's domestic servants are already in custody together with about two dozen other people taken in by the CID.

Police initially blamed the dominant Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for the assassination and associated deaths, but the CID later said it was too early to accuse anyone as their ivestigations were continuing.

'Hard-Core' LTTE Leaders Arrested With Explosives

BK1306114093 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Six hard-core LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leaders trained in Madurai, India were arrested on Friday night by the police when they attempted to slip into the city in a (Delica) van. High-ranking police sources said all six of them under interrogation had confessed that they underwent military training in a special camp in Madurai and returned to Sri Lanka in early February. A senior police spokesman said they are well-known Tiger leaders. He said investigations had revealed that some 30 well-trained LTTE cadres have slipped into the city to carry out attacks on political party leaders and parliamentarians. Intelligence reports indicate that the possible targets are the government leaders and opposition leaders including MEP [Mahajana Eksath Peramuna] leader Dinesh Gunawardene, and the SLMC [Sri Lanka Muslim Congress] leader M.H.M. Ashrof. The six Tigers arrested on Friday were nabbed at a police checkpoint close to Palliyegoda. One of the investigators said the vehicle in which the Tigers were travelling contained explosives, wires used for detonating bombs, batteries, and wrist watches. He said the six suspects were now detained under the detention orders and were being interrogated by a special team of officers.

Army Launches Operation Against LTTE in Batticaloa

BK1006115493 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] The security forces launched a new operation called (Mood Sulan) in Batticaloa North area early this morning. The operation covered (Vaharai), Mankerni, Kayankerni and Kachcheriveli areas. A local curfew has been imposed until further notice in these areas. These details were disclosed by the Joint Operation Command spokesman, Brigadier Nalin Angamana, at the weekly news briefing at Gramodaya Center in Colombo this morning. He said this operation has been launched to clear these areas where around 250 LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] cadres are reported to have moved from Toppigalle jungle where the operation (Sumana) was successfully concluded a few days ago. Three bases of the security forces are now functioning to prevent LTTE cadres returning to the Toppigalle areas. Brig. Angamana said four constables have been killed and two constables injured when the LTTE attacked a bunker between Manaathan and Thalladi this morning.

Liberates 4 Coastal Villages

BK1206101893 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0922 GMT 12 Jun 93

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 12 (LANKAPUVATH)—Troops of operation 'Muhudu Sulang' (sea breeze) Saturday began establishing bases in four villages on the northern coast of Batticaloa in eastern Sri Lanka which they have liberated from the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. Security forces eastern commander Lucky Algama told LANKAPUVATH that Operation 'Muhudu Sulang' which was launched at dawn Thursday, had been very successful and targets setout for phase one, had been achieved. The four fishing villages, stretching a distance of 20 kilometres northwards, bordering the A-15 coastal highway are now under the full control of government troops. This area of control also includes a large cashew plantation from which the terrorists were driven out and their bases overrun. Three thousand troops backed by air and sea cover, are now consolidating their positions and building new bases, after having routed an estimated 250 terrorists who were dominating the villages of Mankerni, Kadiraveli, Pulipanchikulam and Vakarai. Chief of the Joint Operations Command (JOC) General Hamilton Wanasinghe toured the 'Muhudu Sulang' operational area, Saturday.

Committee on Ethnic Issue Suggests Referendum in East

BK1106113493 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1001 GMT 11 Jun 93

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 11 (LANKAPUVATH)—The Parliamentary Select Committee on the ethnic question has decided that a referendum should be held in the Eastern Province within the next four months to determine whether the people of the east wish the temporary north-east merger to continue or be de-linked, authoritative political sources said. "The decision was taken at a meeting of the select committee on Thursday morning", the sources said. The temporary merger was effected under the terms of the Indo-Lankan accord of 1987, when it was agreed that a referendum in the east, to be held within a year, would give the people of that province the opportunity to decide whether the majority wished the link to continue or not. It is reliably understood that there had been contacts between the select committee and the defence secretary, the army commander, IGP [inspector general of police] and the elections commissioner on the possibility of the referendum, postponed several times since 1988, being accomplished in the short term.

Tamil Parties Oppose Decision

BK1306121893 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The military high command has assured parliamentary select committee chairman Mangala Munasinghe that they have the strength and the capacity to drive out the Tigers from the entire Eastern Province within four months to pave the way for the holding of the referendum. In a ground-breaking decision last Thursday, the parliamentary Select Committee, chaired by MP Mangala Munasinghe, resolved to call for a referendum in the east

in four months time. It was to allow the people of that region to determine through the ballot whether they preferred to remain merged with the north as a province or opted to demerge from the north and function as a separate and independent province.

Meanwhile, a conference of Tamil parties yesterday decided to defer its comments on the decision by the parliamentary Select Committee to call for a referendum in the Eastern Province. Political sources said last night that the Tamil parties would refrain from comment until the select committee made an official announcement. However, some of the Tamil parties who attended last evening's conference at the residence of All Ceylon Tamil Congress leader Kumar Ponnambalam have already issued separate statements to the media opposing the holding of referendum in the east to decide whether the northeastern provinces should remain merged.